

A fire on Elm Street kindles compassion, love

On Dec. 13, 2005, I reported for jury duty at the Bergen County Justice Center in Hackensack. Shortly after the first group was called for a case, someone turned on the large television in the jury waiting room. Immediately, I heard the word "Bergenfield," my current town of assignment.

I watched and listened with both horror and concern as the images of the explosion and fire at 30 Elm Street filled the screen. Looking out the windows toward the northeast, I saw the billowing smoke in the clear morning sky.

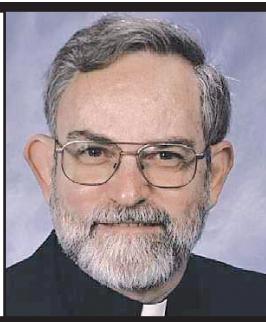
As the newscast continued, mentioning the number of families displaced and some possibly injured or dead, I found myself in a quandary: should I remain to fulfill my jury duty day, or, as Pastor of St. John's, should I ask to be excused so I could go to the fire scene?

As I weighed both sides of the issue, my cell phone rang. Our parish secretary, Susan Gangemi, was calling to advise me about the incident and of the actions already being taken. One of my parochial vicars, Father Ray, had visited the scene and talked with some of the survivors and emergency workers. Another, Father Jacek, had spoken with Mayor Bohan, and offered the use of our church basement and hall as a place of refuge for the evacuees of the affected and adjacent buildings.

Being a pastor doesn't mean having to do it all.

Seeing is Believing

By Rev. Msgr.
Richard J. Arnholts



T.J. Lee, one of our parish "pillars," offered to cook a hot meal for those who would need it. Parishioner Bob Armbruster, who lived behind 30 Elm St., had hooked up with another of our parishioners, Nick Detura, a building resident, and phoned the rectory to say that both were safe.

Being reassured by these reports, I decided to stay at the courthouse. In early afternoon, a second call provided information about the clothing collection and relief fund being

established by the borough.

As it turned out, I was not needed for a case that day. Upon returning to the rectory, I learned that only a few people had come for temporary shelter at St. John's, with most going to another location or

remaining near the fire scene. Three registered parish families lived at 30 Elm St.

By the next day, we were aware that all, including one of our C.C.D. teachers, Maria Estrera, were alive and well, staying with relatives or friends, but with nothing more than the clothes they were wearing that day. Our Junior Girl Scout Troop #14 swung into action, holding a hot chocolate and bake sale after all the following weekend's Masses. They put a donation box on the table, and, by the end of the day, had collected \$2,500.00 for the relief fund! Other parishioners offered clothing and furniture for whenever and wherever the families are relocated.

Jim Detura, Nick's son, put it this way: "We are grateful to so many. The outpouring of love and affection from St. John's and the town of Bergenfield has been very humbling and it brings out the good in so many. In a world where we often doubt where society is going, witnessing what we have first hand instills faith and hope that good still prevails."

Once again, I am reminded that being a pastor doesn't mean having to do it all, as much as it means fostering a spirit where priests and people respond together as part of their baptismal call as Church. In this instance, their actions made clear and real the words of Jesus: "Whatever you did for one of these least ones, you did for Me." (Matthew 25:40)

Rev. Msgr. Arnholts is pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Bergenfield, and Archdiocesan Vicar for Pastoral Life.

Re-examining Catholicism and modernity

In his Christmas address to the Roman Curia on true and false interpretations of Vatican II, Pope Benedict XVI asked why the Church had had such a difficult time opening a dialogue with "the modern age."

His answers are provocative, and turn some of the conventional accounts of modern history inside out.

"Catholicism and modernity" got off to a bad start, the Pope suggested, when the Galileo trial opened a fissure between the Church and natural science. Immanuel Kant's philosophical attempt to define "religion within pure reason" then seemed to eliminate any notion of a divine revelation to which the Church was accountable.

The most dramatic breach came after 1789, when the French Revolution proposed—and bloodily enforced—an "image of the state and of man...intended to crowd out the Church and faith."

A liberalism with no room for God was not a liberalism with which the Church could co-exist. And how could there be a dialogue with science when science "claimed to embrace, with its knowledge, the totality of reality to its outermost borders," a claim that made the "hypothesis of God" unnecessary?

European ideas and European politics thus led to a reaction under Pius IX: what Benedict called "a harsh and radical condemnation of this spirit of the modern age." Yet Pius's broadsides were no less "drastic" than the rejection of Christianity by those who most self-consciously embodied the spirit of the "modern age."

There were other currents at work in modernity, however, and they eventually made their presence felt. Here, Benedict is worth a longish quote:

"It was becoming clear that the American Revolution had offered a model of the modern state that was different from that theorized by the radical tendencies that had emerged from the second phase

The Catholic Difference

by George Weigel



of the French Revolution. Natural sciences began...to reflect (on) their own limits, imposed by their own method which, while achieving great things, was nevertheless not able to comprehend the totality of reality.

"Thus both sides began... to open up to each other. In the period between the two world wars and even more after the Second World War, Catholic statesmen had shown that a modern lay state, which is not neutral with respect to values can exist (by) tapping into the great ethical fonts of Christianity.

"Catholic social doctrine...became an important model between radical liberalism and the Marxist theory of the state. Natural sciences...realized ever more clearly that (their scientific) method was not comprehensive of the totality of reality and thus opened again their doors to God, knowing that reality is greater than what a naturalistic (scientific) method can embrace."

Several points are worth teasing out of this trenchant analysis.

1.) The harshness of the 19th Century confrontation between Catholicism and "modernity" was, so to speak, bilateral. Powerful forces in European culture and politics aimed at nothing less than the eradication of Christianity, or, at the very least, tethering the Church to an all-powerful state. As Benedict concedes, Pius IX's language was the language of condemnation; but there was, in truth, a lot that needed condemning (as Anglican historian Owen Chadwick made clear in *A History of the Popes 1830-1914* and as another British scholar, Michael Burleigh, will underscore in his forthcoming *Earthly Powers: The Clash of Religion and Politics in Europe from the French Revolution to the Great War*.)

2.) The American Revolution, which institutionally separated Church and state while affirming the transcendent origins of the "truths," on which democratic politics had to be based, was an entirely different matter than its French counterpart. Thus "1776" helped compel the development of doctrine

that eventually led to Vatican II's Declaration on Religious Freedom (a point that might be pondered, not only by Lefebvrists, but by Communio contributors

convinced that America is, at bottom, an ill-founded republic).

3.) Catholicism and science can have a mutually beneficial dialogue when the Church remembers that it's not in the geology business and science remembers that the scientific method can't measure, much less account for, "all there is," which is, I take it, the central point at issue in the current round of the Darwin wars.

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

Catholicism and science can have a mutually beneficial dialogue.

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FREQUENCY FOR THE YEAR

The Catholic Advocate continues to be a bi-weekly publication. Publication dates for 2006 are: February 8, 22; March 8, 22; April 12, 26; May 10, 24; June 7, 21; July 12, 26; August 9, 23; September 6, 20; October 4, 25; November 8, 22; December 6, 20.

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'Why Catholic?' inspires journey to reflect during season of Lent

NEWARK—Catholics across the four counties of Archdiocese of Newark can pause and reflect during the season of Lent by asking themselves a very important question: "Why Catholic?"

To help find answers, the archdiocese, along with Plainfield-based RENEW International, is extending an invitation for adult parishioners to take part in faith-formation workshops known as "Why Catholic?," being held in over 40 parishes throughout Bergen, Essex, Hudson and Union counties.

The workshops cover basic Church teachings with an element of evangelization and outreach woven throughout the learning process. The Why Catholic? project is designed for small faith-gathering groups or parish gatherings, which are led by lay people.

Beginning the week of Feb. 26, workshop participants will explore the theme of "The Profession of Faith: What We Believe." Workshop planning teams and group leaders will review the basic truths of the Catholic faith and how those doctrines are relevant to daily life. The programs also will be offered in Spanish as ¿Por qué ser Católico?

The six-week series of community learning will culminate in a workshop called "Scripture and Tradition: the Braid of Revelation," which will clarify the meaning of revelation and explain why the Catholic Church gives equal importance to sacred scripture and sacred tradition as vehicles of divine revelation. At the end of this six-week period, all parishes will be encouraged to hold a celebration of fellowship.

Parishes have designated Jan. 28 and 29, Feb. 4 and 5, and Feb. 11 and 12, as sign-up weekends for adults to participate in the workshops. Parishes or community groups interested in participating in the Why Catholic? program can contact Sister Terry Rickard, assistant director of ministry expansion at RENEW International at (908) 769-5400 ext. 160 or Father Abraham Orapankal at ext. 122.

Parishioners can visit www.whycatholic.org for more information and a full listing of parishes and communities hosting the program. In addition, details of the program can be obtained by contacting the Archdiocesan Office for Evangelization at (973) 497-4353.

RENEW, a Catholic organization established in the Archdiocese of Newark in 1976, develops parish renewal programs. The group created Why Catholic? two years ago and the program extends to 50 diocese and 2,000 parishes throughout North America. It begins with months of preparation and a series of workshops that gather members of interested parishes into a planning, or core, team.

There was an enthusiastic response from parishes during the launch workshop for Why Catholic?, which was held in October

Continued on page 8

Young Adult Month events celebrate the most valuable resource of Church



Advocate photos — M. Gabriele

FACES IN THE CROWD—Over 300 young adults were connected—heart and soul—at the Youthfest celebration, which was held Jan. 8 at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center in Kearny. Jesse Manibusan, the vibrant singer/songwriter from the diocese of Fort Worth, Texas, served as the Youthfest keynote speaker and performer, bringing a smile to every face in the crowd (see photos) with joyful songs, stories and prayers. Young people took part in three rounds of workshops that day, and have participated in various events this month, such as the "Theology on Tap" series, which was held at taverns throughout the four counties of the archdiocese. The Youth and Young Adult Ministry will close out the Young Adult Month activities on Feb. 4, 6:30 p.m., with Chili ("Chilly") Night at the Kearny center. Contact the center, 499 Belgrove Drive, at 201-998-0088 for more information.

'Intelligent design'

Continued from page 1

biblical message, which often is read to be understood literally in all its parts. The beautiful hymn of creation (Gen 1:1-2:4) has been interpreted as a direct contradiction to the theory of evolution, for which scientists of several specialties bring strong support from their careful observations.

How do Catholics respond to this debate? First, we are reminded of the Church's teaching about divine revelation recorded in the Bible, which is a library of works in several literary forms. Because of inspiration by the Holy Spirit, "the books of Scripture must be acknowledged as teaching firmly, faithfully and without error, that truth which God wanted to put into the sacred writings for the sake of our salvation" (Vatican Council II, Divine Revelation #11).

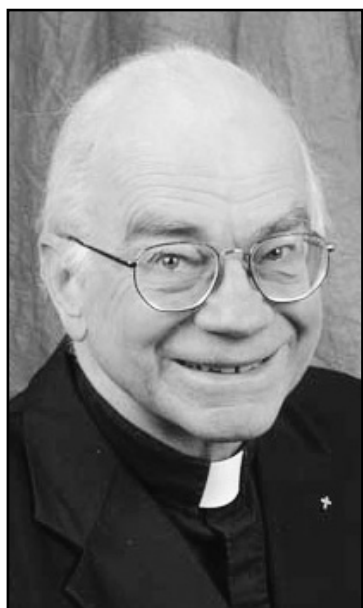
The major doctrines found in Genesis and other parts of the Bible include creation by the one God in time. The Creator gave a unique role to human beings, modeled in the divine image, as his agents; the challenge to imitate God is inculcated by prescribing a day of rest (see Ex 20:8-11). The serious responsibility of human beings is to cooperate with God by propagating the species and by governing the world in accord with the divine will.

A regular rhythm of worship and reflection on God's plan are reasons for the command to rest one day a week. Such lessons have a perennial persistence for human life, and have been discerned by Jews and Christians as essential points of the message long before the teaching of scientists that all life evolved over a very long period of time.

Rather than promoting an interpretation that focuses on a negative response to the insights of the physical sciences, Jews and Christians should continue to offer the depths of their spiritual heritage with the younger generation, encouraging them to be open to truths of science as well as to the mysteries of faith. Ultimately, there should be an assurance that truth in science does not contradict our faith.

How do Christians share their convictions with their neighbors? We first search for what we hold in common. The First Vatican Council (1870) declared that "God, the cause and goal of all reality, can be known by the natural light of

human reason and from created things" (see Rom 1:20). The Catechism of the Catholic Church adds: "Our human understanding... can understand what God tells us by means of his creation, though not without great effort and only in a spirit of humility and



Father Lawrence E. Frizzell

respect before the Creator and his work" (#299).

The Church always has maintained a healthy respect for human reason and its capacity for grappling with the many questions posited by serious thinkers. These questions relating to the meaning of life and the human order in the context of all creation are philosophical. The process of reasoning and elucidation of arguments are quite different from that of the disciplines in which the theory of evolution is tested and many of its postulates confirmed. Both methods are valid, each in its own sphere, but they should not be confused. People should be conscious of the context in which each discussion can take place and acknowledge both the strengths and limitations of each discipline.

This means that the arguments between practitioners of these disciplines will be futile unless each recognizes the way in which the scientist may present ideas that are beyond the scope of empirical research and the philosopher/theologian may introduce concepts alien to the domain of the physical sciences. This latter intrusion was criticized sharply by Judge John E. Jones III in his ruling in Harrisburg, Pa., on Dec. 20, 2005 (see *The New York Times*, Dec. 21, 2005 p. A 1, 34).

Does this mean an impasse?

Only if the communication on each side fails to acknowledge the value of the other within its own sphere. The philosopher's discussion of the world in terms of causality leads many serious thinkers to the idea of the Prime (or Unmoved) Mover. Of course, faith in the God of Israel leads the theologian much further, to the Creator who is passionately committed to provide for creatures. As the scientist evaluates the results of various fields wherein sophisticated measurements provide multiple sets of data, the same person might ask questions that go beyond the physical world. In doing so he enters into dialogue with philosophy and, perhaps, with theology.

While we trust the honesty and goodwill of our fellow human beings, we are aware that a scientist may draw extensive conclusions from incomplete and even fraudulent analysis. Might this happen with persons of faith? Judge Jones stated that the proponents of "intelligent design" were trying "to thrust an untestable alternative hypothesis grounded in religion into the science classroom." He noted that the testimony of experts maintained that the theory of evolution "in no way conflicts with, nor does it deny, the existence of a divine creator."

The philosopher and theologian should appreciate the distinction between spheres of investigation and then enter into dialogue with people in the physical sciences whom they respect. Discussion, rather than mere confrontation and debate, should be the model for advancing a mutually beneficial communication between disciplines.

How do parents and other educators deal with the challenges of this debate in the home and school? The limitation imposed by the judiciary on the public school system has the unfortunate consequence of excluding philosophical and theological perspectives from the classroom, not only in science courses but elsewhere as well. This has led many sincere Christians to seek an alternative. In doing so, they may fail to accept the distinction between modes of searching for and elucidating the truth.

Does this mean that students must wait until college to explore the contributions of perennial disciplines to the wider wisdom needed to grapple with all facets of life's great questions? Why not introduce dialogue between scientists and theologians in other settings for

those families who desire to discuss these issues?

In public school the polarization of "Church-State" issues continues to require that parents and their religious community complete the task of educating the child, not only regarding the strengths and limits of the physical sciences, but also into a maturity of faith and moral principles. In any case, educators are but cooperators with parents in the wonderful responsibility of molding young minds and spirits toward maturity.

Jews and Christians should continue to offer the depths of their spiritual heritage with the younger generation, encouraging them to be open to truths of science as well as to the mysteries of faith. Ultimately, there should be an assurance that truth in science does not contradict our faith.

The situation of Catholic and other private schools enables collaboration between parents and teachers and assures the former that philosophical and doctrinal foundations for faith will be taught in the proper context. The teaching of sciences can take place in an atmosphere that includes an awareness of the magnificence and limitations of creatures and the human responsibility in and for life, all in accord with God's will.

Where do Catholics turn for a serious presentation of the issues in the debate about "intelligent design" and/or evolution? In 2004, the Pontifical International Theological Commission published a lengthy study *Communion and Stewardship: Human Persons Created in the Image of God*. Permission for

publication was given by Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, who has been aware of this debate and its wider context for many years.

Undoubtedly he will continue to encourage careful discussion of the various facets of this debate. This text deserves a reflective reading by theologians and scientists, Catholic parents and educators. I quote from the section directly pertinent to this essay: The current scientific debate about the mechanisms at work in evolution requires theological comment insofar as it sometimes implies a misunderstanding of the nature of divine causality. Many neo-Darwinian scientists, as well as some of their critics, have concluded that, if evolution is a radically contingent materialistic process driven by natural selection and random genetic variation, then there can be no place in it for divine providential causality.

A growing body of scientific critics of neo-Darwinism point to evidence of design (e.g., biological structures that exhibit specified complexity) that, in their view, cannot be explained in terms of a purely contingent process and that neo-Darwinians have ignored or misinterpreted.

The nub of this currently lively disagreement involves scientific observation and generalization concerning whether the available data support inferences of design or chance, and cannot be settled by theology. But it is important to note that, according to the Catholic understanding of divine causality, true contingency in the created order is not incompatible with a purposeful divine providence. Divine causality and created causality radically differ in kind and not only in degree. Thus, even the outcome of a truly contingent natural process can nonetheless fall within God's providential plan for creation.

The complexity and importance of this text cannot be fully savored from part of one paragraph. Readers may find it on the Vatican website at: www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/cti_documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20040723_communion-stewardship_en.html and in *Origins* 34 (Sept. 23, 2004) p. 233-248. Take it and read!

(Father Lawrence E. Frizzell is the director of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, South Orange. He also serves as a regular columnist—"Sunday Readings"—for *The Catholic Advocate*.)

January 27

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, dinner at Panera Bread, Wayne, 7:30 p.m., call (973) 248-9245, RSVP before Jan. 26.

January 28

St. Phil's Singles, Livingston, dinner at Benvenuti Ristorante, East Hanover, 6 p.m., call (973) 560-9278 after 5 p.m., RSVP by Jan. 24.

January 30

Holy Family Rosary Society, Nutley, meeting at 7:45 p.m., call (973) 667-0026.

St. Mary Parish, Nutley, presentation on the new Medicare-D Prescription Drug Plan, 1 p.m., call (973) 235-1100.

February 1

Holy Spirit Parish, Union, Holy Hour for Life, 7:30 p.m., (908) 687-3327.

February 3

Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa, Jersey City, recitation of the Little Office, 3:15 p.m., followed by Mass at St. Peter Parish, call Katherine at (201) 689-1471.

St. Mary Parish, Bayonne, Liturgical Choir sing, 11 a.m. Mass, Call Buff Lindau at (802) 654-2536.

February 4

Sodality of the Children of Mary of St. Teresa, Jersey City, recitation of the Rosary, 8:40 a.m., St. Peter Parish, followed by 9 a.m. Mass and breakfast meeting, call Katherine at (201) 689-1471.

February 5

Immaculate Conception Single Adults, Montclair, Super Bowl Party for Catholic Singles, at Knights of Columbus, 5 p.m., Cost: \$15, call (973) 783-7863.

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, Roseland, Sacrament of Baptism, 2 p.m., call (973) 226-7288.

February 12

St. Paul Parish, Ramsey, Candlelight Vigil and Living Rosary honoring Our Lady of Lourdes, 4 p.m., call (201) 327-0976.

March 10

Youth Group of St. Phillip the Apostle Parish, Saddle Brook, Teen Retreat Experience, March 10-12, Call Donna Johnson at (973) 427-0979 or Justin Aughey at (201) 572-0896.

Our Policy

To publicize an upcoming event at your parish, school or organization on the "Around the Archdiocese" page, please note:

- Submissions must include the name of the sponsoring organization, a phone number for the contact person and event specifics, including the date, place and time.
- Deadline for submission is 10 days prior to publication date.

The Catholic Advocate publishes submissions as space allows and cannot print an item more than once.

- Contact by email: mielejos@rcan.org, fax: 973-497-4192, or mail: The Catholic Advocate, Around the Archdiocese, P.O. Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104

Top-notch hoops mark SFIC festival action

JERSEY CITY—When the last seconds expired on the game clock at the Yanitelli Life and Recreation Center at Saint Peter's College earlier this month, there was a huge smile on the face of Bill Fitzpatrick. It was another highly successful day for the Scholarship Fund for Inner-City (SFIC) Basketball Festival.

Fitzpatrick, who came up with the idea for the event three years ago and is the event chairman, had four exceptionally entertaining basketball high school basketball games and generated scholarship funds for his favorite cause.

The SFIC Basketball Festival, which had Aeropostale as the lead sponsor this year, started out with a thrilling 47-45 victory by St. Anthony over Christian Brothers Academy. It was followed by St. Benedict's 63-45 victory over Paramus Catholic, a dominating 72-57 win by St. Patrick's over Paterson Catholic and then Roselle Catholic's 60-51 victory over St. Peter's Prep in the finale.

"I have to thank everyone for making this a success once again," explained Fitzpatrick, who saw over 3,000 fans attend the four games. "This is a team effort with coaches, administrators, players, sponsors and fans creating a great day of high school basketball for a great cause. There are no real losers at our basketball festival."

The first game was televised by Madison Square Garden Network and was decided when Giovanni Carenza hit two free throws with 1.3 seconds left for the St. Anthony victory. The Friars overcame a brilliant performance by CBA's

Dan Werner, who had 32 points, 13 rebounds, four blocks and three steals. Werner had CBA's first 14 points of the game and the team's final 11 points.

St. Benedict's was paced by Samardo Samuel's 15 points to

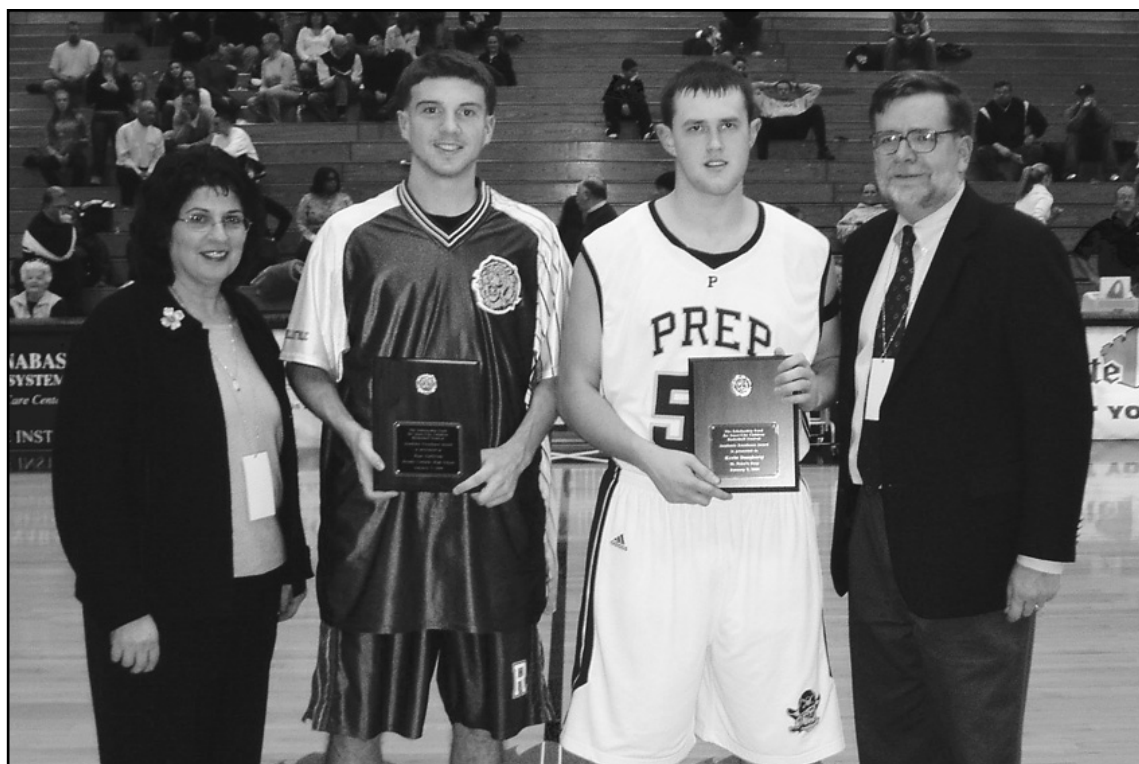
*"There are no
real
losers at our
Basketball
Festival."*

*—Bill Fitzpatrick
event chairman*

defeat Paramus Catholic in the second game. St. Patrick's, ranked as the top team in New Jersey, used the balanced scoring of Corey Fisher and Jeff Robinson, who each had nine points, for its victory. In the final game, Roselle Catholic received 13 points from Michael Guzman, to roll past the Prep.

"It was another good day of high school basketball," said Bob Hurley, the coach of the Friars and one of the top high school coaches in the country. "All of the players really get up for the festival and you can see by the results that there are some very good games. We are all very pleased to be supporting the Scholarship Fund with the great work it is doing for young people."

The festival also recognized a number of players with its Academic Excellence Awards. SFIC President Ron Mount and Executive Director Lorraine Cunningham made on court



Lorraine Cunningham, executive director of SFIC, makes presentations to, left to right, Dan Sullivan of Roselle Catholic, and St. Peter's Prep's Kevin Dougherty. Offering congratulations is Bill Fitzpatrick, event chairman.

presentations to Tim Andre of CBA, Darrell McKenzie of Paramus Catholic, Robert Price of Paterson Catholic, Dan Sullivan of Roselle Catholic, Sean Smith of St. Anthony, David Cubillian of St. Benidicts Prep. Yves Mkongo Mbala of St. Patrick's and Kevin Dougherty of St. Peter's Prep.

The success of the event was made possible by sponsorships from Aeropostale, Hudson City Savings Bank, White Castle, St. Barnabas Health Care System, the Speedwell Foundation, the MCJ and Amelior Foundations, The Walsh Family, Applebee's and Yella's Deli. For more information about the scholarship fund, please visit www.sficnj.org.

Official Appointments

Archbishop John J. Myers has announced the following appointments:

ARCHDIOCESAN/AGENCY MINISTRY

Reverend Monsignor William J. Reilly,

Pastor of Most Holy Name Parish, Garfield, and Coordinator of the Multi-Cultural Office in the Archdiocese of Newark, has been reappointed to a second three-year term as Coordinator of the Multi-Cultural Office ending Jan. 1, 2009.

PASTOR

Reverend Jorge E. Chacon,

Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Elizabeth, has been reappointed to a second six-year term ending Feb. 1, 2012.



PAROCHIAL VICAR

Reverend Julio I. Roman

has been appointed part-time Parochial Vicar of St. Anne Parish, Jersey City, and part-time Parochial Vicar of St. Columba Parish, Newark, effective Dec. 7, 2005.

Reverend Jude Caliba

has been appointed Parochial Vicar of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish, East Orange, for one year, effective Jan. 4.

Thoughts on Catholic Schools Week

UNION CITY—Following are essays on Catholic Schools Week written by sixth graders at Holy Rosary Academy.

'Opened my eyes'

Being in a Catholic school has opened my eyes to things that people in public schools never see, such as the Bible or praying together in class or as a school.

The Bible has taught me about many famous saints. I have learned about Adam and Eve, Noah, Jesus and most interesting to me, how God chose Mary out of all women to be the mother of His Son. The Bible has also taught me about people I never knew before, like Mary's cousin Elizabeth having a baby in her old age.

The Holy Trinity is also very special and important to Catholics. It represents three people in one God: God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. On St. Patrick's Day we have a Mass in school and we learned how St. Patrick used the shamrock's three leaves to teach about the Holy Trinity.

We also sing a lot of beautiful songs. My favorite is "Amazing Grace." We have a choir in school and they sing only on very special occasions. When we have Mass, the entire school sings.

Next week, we will be celebrating the feast of St. Vincent Palotti, our founder. It is something I am looking forward to.

At Mass, we always try to look our best. On All Saints Day, we were taught about relics of Saints and we kissed one.

The most exciting time in our school was in October when Bishop Donato came to say Mass for us. I was really happy and nervous on that day. I was happy because it was an honor to have the Bishop visit our school. I was nervous because I was one of the students chosen to do a reading at Mass. It was my first time and I was proud to do it.

Melissa Perez

'Great opportunity'

Going to a Catholic School is a great opportunity. There are less kids so you get a chance to learn more. When you go to a Catholic school, you get a better education since teachers have more time to spend with you since there aren't as many other kids in the class.

In our school, Holy Rosary Academy, you have a fun time learning. Sometimes the teachers let you play games to help you learn. About a week ago, we had an English Grammar Bee in class. Today Grades

2 through 8 all had a Spelling Bee. I think you should respect the teachers for all they teach you.

In a Catholic School, you have the ability to learn about God. You can get closer to God by learning about Him in Religion Class or in the S.A. + C. The S.A. + C. is a club that meets every other week. The letters stand for Student Apostles with Christ. It is great that we have this opportunity.

In a school like Holy Rosary, the teachers are really nice. They help you out with things that give you trouble. They also give you more time to finish your work.

You can even make a lot of friends even if there aren't a lot of people in your class. They help you out if you are new, and try to be your friends.

Elena Zeman

'A great thing'

Catholic Schools are a great thing. The teachers are nice people. When you don't understand, they try to help you. When they see that you aren't understanding something, they go out of their way to help you. They are very cool people most of the time.

Talking about wonderful people, who better to talk about than our Principal, Ms. Velez! She always knows what to do and how to do it. She always saves the day if something goes wrong. She is doing a great job without us because without Ms. Velez, our school might be open but our hearts would be closed.

Here in Holy Rosary Academy, we learn about God. We learn that we are all followers of Jesus, who died to save us. We should all be grateful that He did this for us. We learn that God is the best person we can count on, and one way we show our thankfulness is by treating other people the way we want to be treated. We talk to God sometimes because we want something, but we also need to pray to show God we are grateful for all He has given us.

Some things we do at to learn more about God is have special Masses on different feasts. After the Mass to celebrate Epiphany last week, the second grade put on a play about Epiphany. Next week, we will see a play about St. Vincent Palotti.

A very important thing is friends. Going to school is about learning, but also having a great time with our friends. Friends are people that you can have faith in. Lunch is a great time to talk to our friends, but sometimes our teachers let us have time in class to do this if we behave. Besides learning about God and learning other subjects, we also have fun dances. We even had a Christmas show. The dances have nice music and you get to wear nice things. This is a great time to have fun with our friends.

Karina Diaz



Advocate photo-Gerry Mabili

PEACEFUL VIDEO GAMES—Third- and fourth-grade students at St. Joseph School in Oradell recently decided it was time that the world needed to develop more peaceful video games. Encouraged by their religion teacher, Rita Canino, the students offered suggestions for games that would function as learning tools to encourage peaceful actions, as well as offer profiles of noteworthy role models such as Mother Teresa and Martin Luther King Jr. The children have petitioned video game companies to develop a "Saints" game and are pictured with their letters to the Nintendo Co. Canino said the students also have brainstormed on inventing games that would bring God into the lives of people.

Catholic Schools Week: A celebration of excellence

One need look no further than the entire educational structure of the Archdiocese of Newark for impressive evidence of the theme of this year's Jan. 29-Feb. 4 national celebration of Catholic Schools Week: "Character, Compassion, Values."

In this issue, *The Catholic Advocate* shines a well-deserved spotlight on archdiocesan schools.

Unparalleled achievement in the classroom has long been a hallmark of Catholic schools. The challenge of maintaining those high achievements amidst the realities of 2006 and beyond is being met head on by the archdiocesan school office.

As is the case throughout the Church of Newark, the diversity of its schools is its strength. From the inner city to the affluent suburbs, students will, of course, be prepared academically. But in Catholic schools their education is interwoven with the tenants of their faith. That is a powerful combination that will well serve the young people of today as they step out into the world.

Character, compassion and values abound in the schools of the Archdiocese of Newark. Just look at the abundance of academic honors that are garnered year after year. The schools also put the Catholic faith into action. A good example is how the staff and students at the elementary and high school levels joined forces to help the victims of the hurricanes that struck the Gulf Coast last summer.

As every parent knows and their children soon learn, Catholic schools set the standard. A Catholic education truly lasts a lifetime.

'It is in giving that we receive'

The theme of this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA), borrowed from a Franciscan prayer, says it all.

It is essential that donations to the 2006 appeal, which kicks off the weekend of Feb. 4-5, continue to be generous.

As Archbishop John J. Myers has said, the funds help to serve "the neediest of those in need-children, families and individuals*for whom no other resources may exist."

And where does the money go? Where it is needed. A look at distribution of 2004 funds shows that close to half went to parishes and schools. Two other crucial archdiocesan entities, seminary education and formation and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark, also received needed AAA dollars.

Participation in the appeal is a true partnership, which helps the Church of Newark fulfill a vital mission of service to the most vulnerable of God's children.

Daydreams, Belleville High School, circa 1946

There was a popular song by a fine folk artist, Harry Chapin, who died too young. The title of the song was “All My Life is a Circle.” In it he rejoiced in the fact that people entered and re-entered his life. He often felt that he was back where he began. There will always be new beginnings, he said.

Ancient peoples, like Egyptians, Babylonians and others, lived by the constant recurring of nature’s events: the cycle of the seasons, the time of harvest and reaping, the repetition of birth and death.

For the Jewish people, the word for year is “shanah.” It comes from the word “to repeat.” The year is a cycle that turns and returns.

Ecclesiastes wrote: “What has been, that will be; what has been, that will be done. Nothing new is under the sun.”

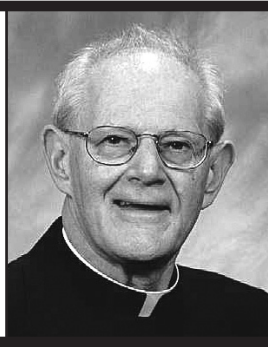
However, life is not quite that way. In fact, for us who are Christians, life is linear. We are born for a purpose. Our life is a progression that starts at birth and that, hopefully, leads to God. Yet all of us, at some time or another, wonder about the future; specifically our own future.

Perhaps you once had an experience like this.

It was 1946. In fact, it was the first day of the school year in January 1946, I found myself, out of

Voices

By Rev. Msgr. John Gilchrist



habit, writing 1945 on my school papers. I had to make a mental note to mark my work with the proper year.

I remember the day very clearly. It was first period. The sun was shining through the windows of Belleville High School. The teacher was talking, but I was not hearing. My mind was wandering.

I was wondering what my future would be. At that time I had no great desire to do some special thing. One thing had occupied our minds. But now, the great crusade—World War II—was over. So with military service no longer obligatory, I had

absolutely no clue about the future.

I looked around at my classmates. What would these people become? Would some become famous? Who would marry whom? Would they have children? What would they be like in 25 or 50 years.

Later that week, a group of us teenagers sat in a car. The conversation turned to that very subject: the mystery of the future. It just happened that each one began to speak about that very topic, the future. The only thing we agreed upon was that there was sure to be a war with Russia. Thank the Lord, we were wrong (but a couple of boys were hurt later in Korea.)

It seemed that none of us had definite plans. It came down to two categories: college or work.

Now, exactly 60 years later, I can see where our paths took us. No one I know is famous. Many have had children. Many have completed life’s journey and gone to God.

But isn’t it a blessing to have lived—yes, even if we have taken a lot of crooked turns in our paths. There is still tomorrow. Who knows, as long as there is life there is a new day—a new chance to experience life on the road to God.

So, let us praise God for a New Year and a new chance to experience the challenge that each morning brings. My friends, each day is a pure gift from the God that loves us. Let us celebrate life.

Rev. Msgr. Gilchrist is pastor of Holy Cross Parish, Harrison.

*The teacher was talking,
but I was not hearing.
My mind was wandering.*

Hurricane

Continued from page 1

The Seton Hall nursing students took individual trips based on a needs assessment from an organization working with four federal agencies.

In early October, Donna Barry, APN-C and Nancy Chiocchi, RN, left New Jersey and spent two weeks in the Gulf Coast region. Chiocchi went to New Orleans and Barry to southwestern Louisiana. They were followed about two weeks later by Dr. Gaffney and Jan Theis, RN. Dr. Gaffney also went to southwestern Louisiana, while Theis served in Lafayette, LA. Their stays were for two weeks and 10 days, respectively.

Chiocchi, who works in the emergency room at Mountainside Hospital in Montclair, helped at a church shelter in Hammond, LA. Saying everyone “did a little bit of this and a little bit of that,” she recalled.

In her role as a mental health professional, Chiocchi talked to the patients using her nursing skills to assess their individual situations. She did so, the Seton Hall graduate explained, “holistically...looking at the whole person. That is the wonderful thing about nursing: the whole person.”

A particular incident that sticks her mind was a woman whose feet were swollen. Chiocchi asked if the woman had congestive heart failure and was taking her medicine. The woman confessed she had not been taking her medicine regularly, fearing that she would run out of it completely.

Explaining she was “immersed in a different kind of culture,” Chiocchi added “it was a wonderful thing to be part of such a new experience.” What she got in return, Chiocchi said, was “unimaginable...it changed me for the better.”

Still, when she returned to New Jersey, there was an inevitable period of adjustment. “I cried and was not able to concentrate, I thought about that community (in Louisiana).” Chiocchi also gained a new level of patience and perspective, and notice that she no longer

was getting “worked up” over “little things” in life.

Christus St. Paul Hospital in Lake Charles, LA, was Barry’s destination.

While Barry was there she worked in the triage section and emergency room, which were the only sections of the hospital operational following the storms.

The “biggest obstacle,” she pointed out, was “finding resources”—anything from clothing to medicine. Noting that the hospital “relied” on the locals, Barry called the situation “frustrating,” adding the circumstances often “changed hourly.”

She recalled a particular “victory” of her stay. Two teenage girls, who had been living in a Red Cross shelter and were left with “virtually nothing,” were wearing flip-flop shoes. Though a concerted effort, a local church with a thrift shop was contacted and clothes delivered to the girls.

For the children, she noted, everyone joined forces to help them mark Halloween. All the volunteers, Barry stressed, “went above and beyond all the time.” She called her time in Louisiana “very rewarding...fulfilling.”

Her experience, Barry added, gave her “a stronger foundation of what is important in life. It strengthened my faith.” Noting that she had been working in a predominately Catholic area, Barry pointed out “faith is an integral part” of the people’s lives.”

Dr. Gaffney spent most her time in the emergency room of the local Catholic hospital. She recalled that, by the time of her arrival, the post-storm situation in the region had reached “the clean-up phase.” Dr. Gaffney said the people “had lost everything. There was mud and mold everywhere,” which forced residents out of their homes. Most of the hospital staff, she added, were similarly affected by the storm and were living in the hospital. Dr. Gaffney also did liaison work at a Red Cross shelter.

After injuries, she stressed, “medication management” was the number one problem.” Resources at every level had to be “pooled.” It was difficult, she went on, “to comprehend the scope of it all.”

Dr. Gaffney also traveled to the Louisiana coast area

some 30 miles southwest of Lakes Charles on the Texas border. Once there, she was overwhelmed by a scene that looked as though “someone had lifted up homes and left (only) the foundations,” referring to the destruction caused by the 30-foot storm water surges.

The associate professor went to some Catholic churches in the Hackberry area of Louisiana. One of those churches, she recalled, has its roof ripped off. Dr. Gaffney talked to the parish priest after Mass who told of what she described as “a real story of resilience and faith.”

The priest told her that a church is “just a building.” The real essence of a parish community, said the priest, is the people. What made a real impression on Dr. Gaffney was when the priest told her that a 400-pound statue of Jesus and Mary had been lifted up from a nearby church and moved by the water to the Hackberry site. Four parishioners picked it up and placed in front of the church.

Why Catholic?

Continued from page 3

(see *The Catholic Advocate*, Aug. 10, 2005). A second workshop series, held in November and entitled “Evangelization: Nuts and Bolts,” focused on various ways to invite parishioners into the program (see *The Catholic Advocate*, Oct. 19, 2005).

Bishop Edgar da Cunha, the regional bishop for Essex County, in an interview last year, stressed the importance of lay people as being “the best vehicles to do this evangelization work. This is part of the vocation and mission of the laity. We want people to become active; not just celebrating the sacraments, but helping people to grow in faith and build communities,” he explained.

Why Catholic? is just one of RENEW’s programs being offered to parishes throughout the country. Another is “Theology on Tap,” a popular, initiative program to educate and inspire young Catholic adults, which involves organizing faith-based discussion groups in local bars, restaurants, and parish halls.

Intelligent design not science

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Intelligent design is not science and should not be taught as a scientific theory in schools alongside Darwinian evolution, an article in the Vatican newspaper said.

The article said that in pushing intelligent design some groups were improperly seeking miraculous explanations in a way that creates confusion between religious and scientific fields.

At the same time, scientists should recognize that evolutionary theory does not exclude an overall purpose in creation—a “superior design” that may be realized through secondary causes like natural selection, it said.

The article, published in the Jan. 17 edition of *L'Osservatore Romano*, was written by Fiorenzo Facchini, a professor of evolutionary biology at the University of Bologna in Italy.

The article noted that the debate over intelligent design—the idea that certain features of life and the universe are best explained by an intelligent designer rather than adaptive evolution—has spread from the United States to Europe.

The problem with intelligent design is that it turns to a “superior cause”—understood though not necessarily named as God—to explain supposed shortcomings of evolutionary science. But that’s not how science should work, the article said.

“If the model proposed by Darwin is held to be inadequate, one should look for another model. But it is not correct methodology to stray from the field of science pretending to do science,” it said.

The article said a Pennsylvania judge had acted properly when he ruled in December that intelligent

design could not be taught as science in schools.

“Intelligent design does not belong to science and there is no justification for the pretext that it be taught as a scientific theory alongside the Darwinian explanation,” it said.

From the Church’s point of view, Catholic teaching says God created all things from nothing, but doesn’t say how, the article said. That leaves open the possibilities of evolutionary mechanisms like random mutation and natural selection.

“God’s project of creation can be carried out through secondary causes in the natural course of events, without having to think of miraculous interventions that point in this or that direction,” it said.

What the Church does insist upon is that the emergence of the human supposes a willful act of God, and that man cannot be seen as only the

product of evolutionary processes, it said. The spiritual element of man is not something that could have developed from natural selection but required an “ontological leap,” it said.

The article said that, unfortunately, what has helped fuel the intelligent design debate is a tendency among some Darwinian scientists to view evolution in absolute and ideological terms, as if everything—including first causes—can be attributed to chance.

“Science as such, with its methods, can neither demonstrate nor exclude that a superior design has been carried out,” it said.

From a religious viewpoint, it said, there is no doubt that the human story “has a sense and a direction that is marked by a superior design.”

“The problem with intelligent design is that it turns to a ‘superior cause.’”

Archbishop hails death penalty moratorium as ‘a giant step’

TRENTON (CNS)— Archbishop John J. Myers praised the New Jersey Legislature for passing a death penalty moratorium bill, calling it “a giant step” toward finding another way to punish criminals and protect its citizens.

“The state of New Jersey took a giant step in affirming what the bishops have long stated: that a developed and civil society should examine alternative processes for protecting its citizens and punishing effectively those who have committed grave wrongs,” he said.

The archbishop, who is also president of the state’s Catholic conference, issued his statement after the bill passed the state Assembly Jan. 9 by a vote of 55-21. The bill had passed the state Senate by a vote of 30-6 in December.

As he said he would, Acting Gov. Richard Codey signed the bill before he left office Jan. 17.

The bill suspends executions while a task force studies how the death penalty has been applied in the state. New Jersey would become the third state to enact such a moratorium.

Under executive orders, Illinois and Maryland previously suspended executions while similar studies were conducted. With a different governor in office, Maryland has since lifted the moratorium and resumed executions. The Illinois moratorium has remained in place since 2000.

Although there are 10 prisoners on New Jersey’s death row, the last state execution took place in 1963.

New Jersey’s 13-member task force would have until November to study whether the state’s capital punishment law serves a legitimate public purpose, how its costs compare to other sentences and whether it is imposed fairly. The task force also could make recommendations about whether alternatives would protect public safety and address “social and penological interests,” such as the interests of victims’ families.

The New Jersey Catholic Conference, which represents the state’s bishops in public policy matters, worked for the bill’s passage.

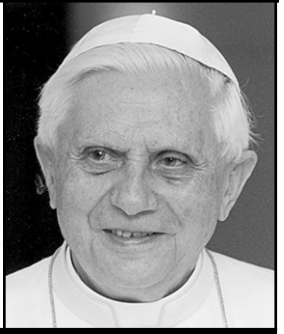
In a Jan. 5 statement, conference executive director William Bolan Jr. said the Church teaches that in contemporary society, the death penalty is almost never necessary for public safety.

“We believe that our society is sufficiently developed to protect itself and to redress the injustice caused by the criminal without resorting to the use of the death penalty,” the statement said.

“The state of New Jersey has other means to redress the injustice caused by crime and to effectively prevent crime by rendering the one who has committed the offense incapable of doing harm,” the statement said.

The Pope Speaks

Pope Benedict XVI

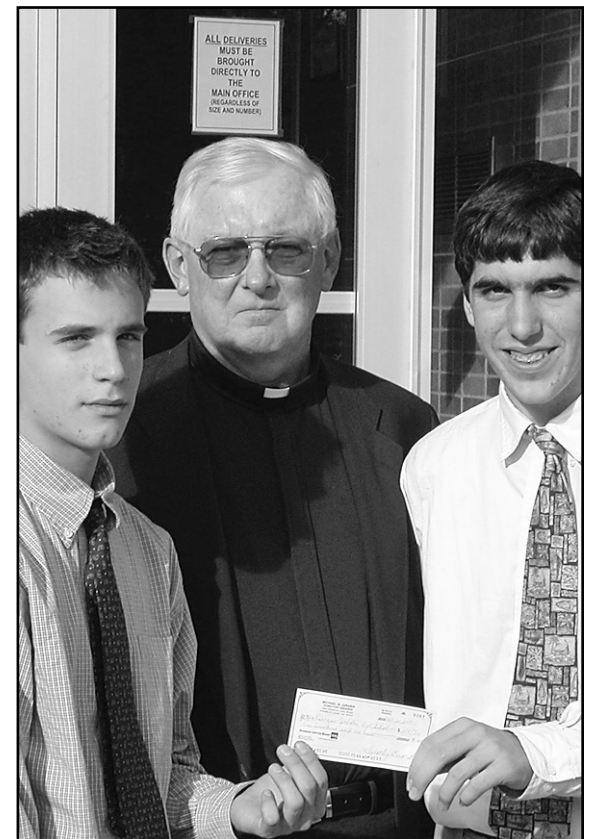


Christian unity

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today begins the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a time when all the Lord’s followers are asked to reflect on the tragedy of their divisions and to pray with the Lord “that all might be one ... that the world may believe” (cf. Jn 17:21).

Prayer for Christian unity is the “heart of the ecumenical movement” (“Unitatis Redintegratio,” 8) and is closely linked to conversion of heart and the pursuit of holiness in obedience to God’s will. As believers draw closer to the triune God, they will draw closer to one another and work more readily for the restoration of full communion. The common prayer of Christians is a powerful means of imploring the grace of unity, since Our Lord himself has promised that “if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them” (Mt 18:19-20). With gratitude to God for the significant ecumenical progress already made, let us look with hope to the future and continue our prayers for the unity of all Christians, recognizing that ultimately it is God’s gracious gift.



FRESHMEN AID HURRICANE VICTIMS—Justin Cornetto and Michael Girardi present a check to Bergen Catholic High School President Brother Lawrence T. Murphy, C.F.C. representing proceeds raised by the students during a recent garage sale to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Newark Chancery Office
Condensed Financial Information
Fiscal years ended June 30, 2005 and 2004

Assets

	2005	2004
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,139,000	\$ 13,247,874
Accounts and loans receivable, net	31,680,985	9,194,401
Contributions receivable, net	1,995,196	2,793,621
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,188,602	1,049,440
Investments:		
Custodial Funds	193,380,024	179,495,584
Endowment Funds	91,238,569	89,398,966
Other Funds	<u>34,757,234</u>	<u>29,317,631</u>
Total investments	319,375,827	298,212,181
Property and Equipment, net	<u>22,719,320</u>	<u>25,006,090</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 383,098,930</u>	<u>\$ 349,503,607</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

	2005	2004
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 7,335,874	\$ 6,598,647
Accrued subsidies to affiliates and other obligations	7,861,884	7,022,310
Custodial funds	<u>193,380,024</u>	<u>179,330,684</u>
Total liabilities	<u>208,577,782</u>	<u>192,951,641</u>
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted net assets	71,271,056	56,427,222
Temporarily restricted net assets	612,011,523	10,725,778
Permanently restricted net assets	<u>91,238,569</u>	<u>89,398,966</u>
Total net assets	<u>174,521,148</u>	<u>156,551,966</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 383,098,930</u>	<u>\$ 349,503,607</u>

Statement of Activity and Changes in Net Assets

	2005	2004
Change in unrestricted net assets		
Operating support and revenue	\$ 28,349,908	\$ 26,999,657
Operating expenses	<u>32,708,377</u>	<u>25,911,044</u>
Increase (decrease) in unrestricted net assets from operations	(4,358,469)	1,088,613
Non-operating income	<u>19,202,304</u>	<u>16,570,436</u>
Increase in unrestricted net assets	14,843,835	17,659,049
Increase in temporarily restricted net assets	1,285,746	824,180
Increase in permanently restricted net assets	<u>1,839,601</u>	<u>1,783,053</u>
Increase in net assets	17,969,182	20,266,282
Net assets, beginning of year	156,551,966	136,285,684
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 174,521,148</u>	<u>\$ 156,551,966</u>

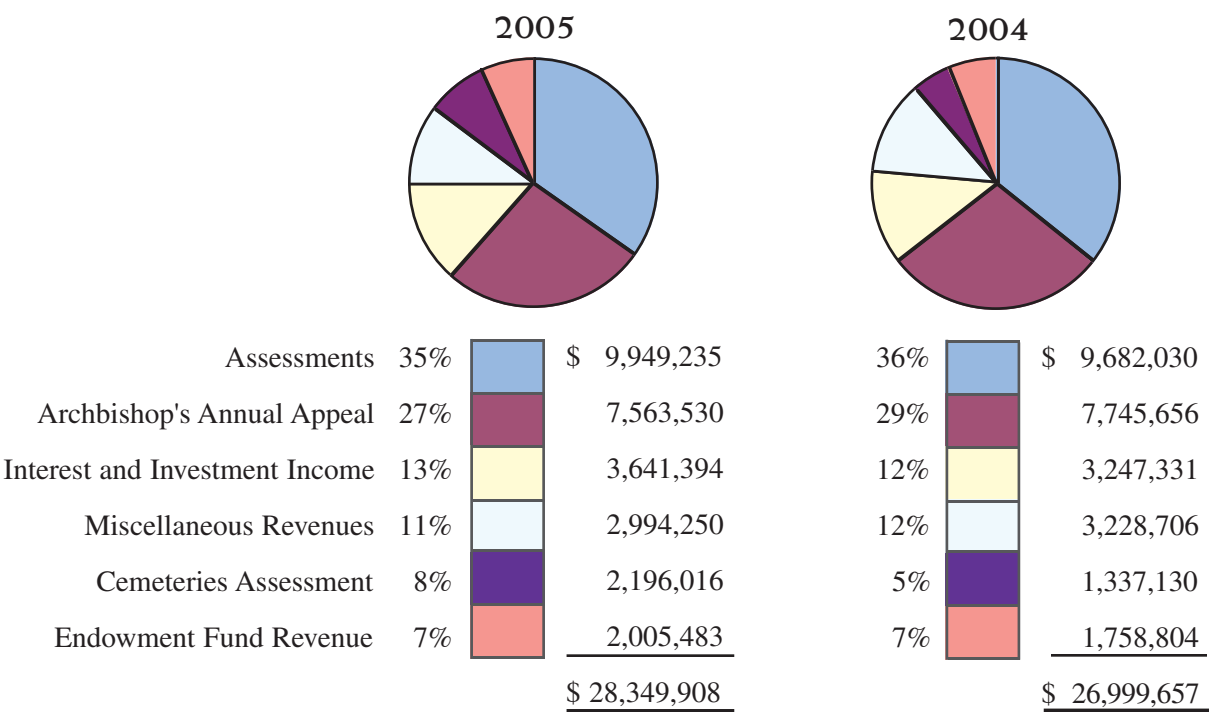
Statement of Cash Flows

	2005	2004
Net cash provided (used) in operating activities	\$ (5,503,922)	\$ 5,344,250
Net cash provide (used) in investing activities	(3,444,553)	1,858,904
Cash flow provided by financing activities	<u>1,839,601</u>	<u>1,783,053</u>
Net increased (decreased) in cash and cash equivalents	(7,108,874)	8,986,207
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	13,247,874	4,261,667
Cash and cash equivalents, of year	<u>\$ 6,139,000</u>	<u>\$ 13,247,874</u>

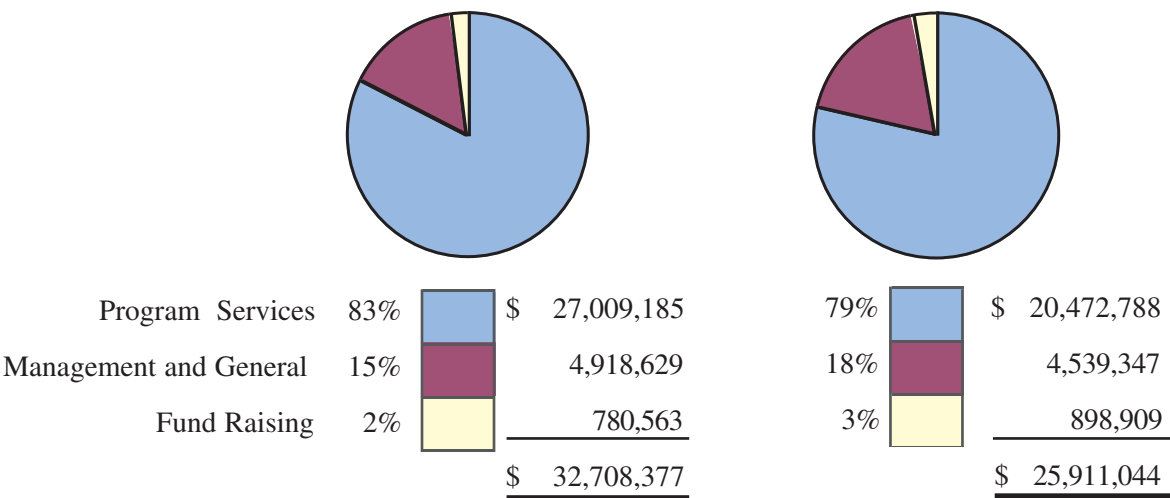
A Summary of the Sources and Uses of the Operating Fund

Fiscal years ended June 30, 2005 and 2004

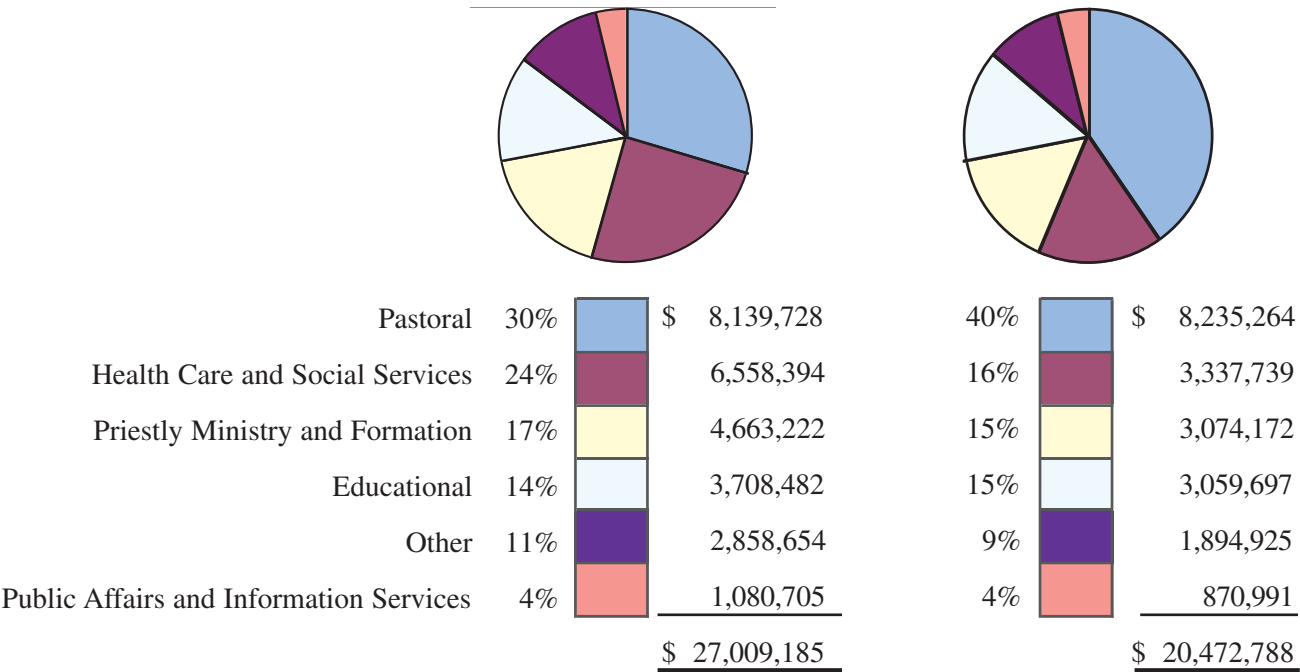
Support and Revenue



Operating Expenses



Program Services Detail



Senate cites SHU legal journal

NEWARK—During the second day of confirmation hearings for Judge Samuel Alito’s nomination to the Supreme Court, Senator Mike DeWine (R-Ohio) made note of the *Seton Hall Circuit Review*, a legal journal started last year by the School of Law students in 2005.

On day four of the hearings, Judge Alito remarked that teaching at Seton Hall Law had provided him with valuable experience in the benefits of diversity.

“A couple of years ago, as an adjunct law professor at Seton Hall Law School, I taught a seminar on civil liberties and terrorism,” said Judge Alito.

“And the first time I conducted the class, we had a class with people of extremely diverse backgrounds relating to this issue. There was a student who had been in the spe-

cial forces in Bosnia. There was a student who was a Muslim from the Middle East. There were a number of students who had been personally affected, in one way or another, by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. There were students who felt very strongly about civil liberties. And having these people in the class with diverse backgrounds and outlooks on the issues that we were discussing made an enormous contribution to the class.”

Sen. DeWine’s comments about Seton Hall Circuit Review were made while questioning Judge Alito about the “incredible shrinking” number of cases on the Supreme Court docket. Judge Alito, who has taught a number of courses at Seton Hall Law, wrote the foreword for the Spring 2005 inaugural issue.

Oak Knoll students score high

SUMMIT—Fourteen members of Oak Knoll’s Class of 2005 and a member of this year’s class received recognition as Advanced Placement Scholars based on their exam scores.

The College Board’s Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both, for successful performances on the AP Exams.

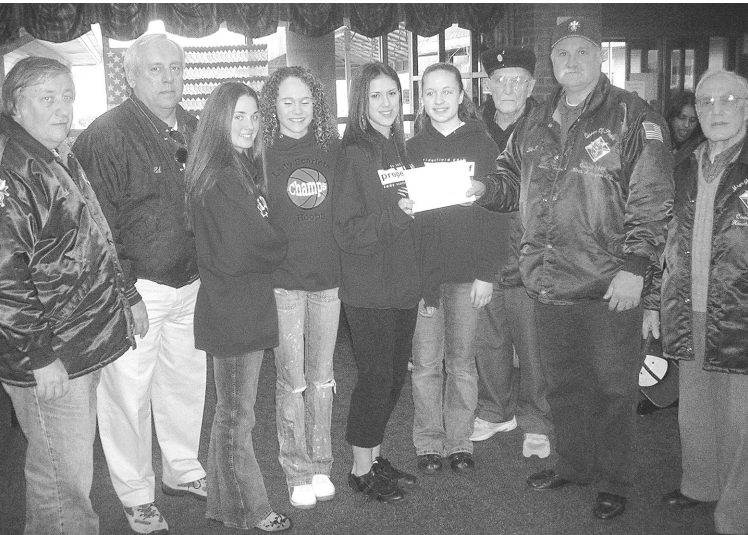
Jean Cambria, Katharine O’Donnell, Elizabeth Sweeney, Carol Szurkowski and Claire Whipple from the Class of 2005 were named AP Scholars With Distinction, scoring at least three on five or more AP Exams taken.

Class of 2005 students named AP Scholars

With Honor—those receiving an average grade of at least three or higher on four or more exams—include Mary Cirella, Kaitlin Krumeich and Julie Myers.

AP Scholars, scoring three or higher on at least three exams, were Class of 2005 students Clare Burke, Christina Lewis, Domenica Paparatto, Marika Robak, Erin Ruane and Megan Schafer. Wynne Dillon of the Class of 2006 also was named an AP Scholar.


Oak Knoll School is a part of the Holy Child Network of Schools. Oak Knoll encompasses a Lower School for boys and girls from kindergarten through 6th grade and an Upper School for young women in grades 7-12.



SWEATS FOR VETS—Members of the Ridgfield Park Girls High School Basketball team present a check to Sir Knight Bob Tarantula of the Msgr. Peter B. O’Connor Assembly, #1543 (North Arlington), to purchase 200 sweatpants as part of the District’s Sweats for Vets Program. On hand were, left to right, Faithful Navigator Sal Manente, State Veterans Assistance Coordinator Edward Shellman, QuarterMaster, Eugene Przebieglec, Bob Tarantula, and Master of the First New Jersey District, Frederick Conforti.

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Sister Joan Noreen is Co-Founder and Director of Our Lady’s Missionaries of the Eucharist. Be sure to view her weekly program, Eucharistic Journey, on EWTN.



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			16 \$11:00	17 \$11:00 2:00	18 10:30 2:00 5:30	19 10:30 2:00 5:30
20 10:30 2:00 Presidents' Day	21 NO SHOWS	22 \$11:00	23 \$11:00	24 \$11:00 2:00	25 10:30 2:00 5:30	26 10:30 2:00 5:30

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THE THEATER AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN

Consecrated Life celebration Feb. 2

NEWARK—Prayers and songs to celebrate World Day for the Consecrated Life will be held Thursday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m., at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Instituted by Pope John Paul II in 1997, the event is celebrated throughout the world to thank God for the gifts that the Consecrated Life brings to the Church, and to offer prayers and support to those who choose to follow the Lord this way.



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DESTINATION	DATES	ESCORT
CRUISES:		
HAWAII	July 14-23	Father John LaFerrera
HAWAII	July 23-31	Father Phil Latronico
CANADA & NEW ENGLAND	September 9-16	Father Tony Lionelli
EGYPT	March 3-16, 2007	Father Bob Colaresi, O.Carm.
GREECE	May 20-28	Father Benny Prado
	August 30-September 11	Father Bob Colaresi, O.Carm.
HOLY LAND	November 2-12	Father George Reilly
ITALY:		
FATIMA+VENICE to SORRENTO	April 21-May 5	Father Bill Smith
ITALIAN LAKES & SWITZERLAND	July 10-20	Father Armand Mantia
ROME+SICILY	July 9-20	Father Bob LaFerrera
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IN 'FOCUS'—Father James Spera, right, director of Campus Ministry at Seton Hall University, recently brought the current "team" of Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) missionaries to meet Archbishop John J. Myers. With the archbishop are, left to right, Patrick McLaughlin, Margot Capocci, Kate Ebeler and Jeff Ossinger. FOCUS college students allow Jesus Christ to be the Lord of their studies, social life, dating relationships and major life decisions.

Parish will honor hero WWII chaplains

KEARNY— St. Stephen's Parish will celebrate its annual Father Washington Mass on Sunday, Feb. 5 at noon. The Mass honors the memory of the parish priest who along with three other chaplains and crew members lost their lives on Feb. 3, 1943 when the USAT Dorchester was torpedoed and sunk in the North Atlantic. Bishop Dominic Marconi, retired auxiliary bishop of Newark, will preside and deliver the homily. An honor guard of veterans from every branch of the military will participate. The Mass is open to the public. As the ship was sinking, the chain of command broke down and the chaplains oversaw distribution of life vests to more than 900 sailors. The chaplains, who were wearing life vests, gave them to four sailors when it was learned there were not enough vests. Going down with the ship the chaplains, who included two Protestant ministers and a rabbi, were seen with their arms around each other, praying. In 1948 the United States Postal Service issued a stamp honoring their sacrifice. Two years ago the street in front of St. Stephen's Rectory was renamed Father John Washington Way.

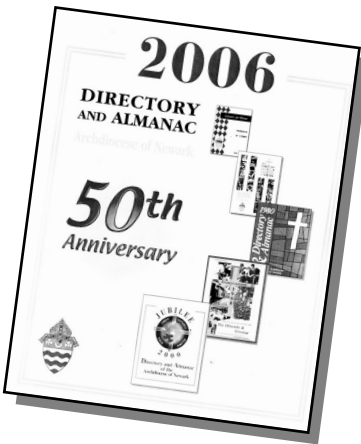
Correction

In a photo caption in the Jan. 11 issue, Saint John's Academy was identified as being in Hillside. It is in Hillsdale.

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A WORLD VIEW—Fifth and sixth grade students from St. Mary School, Dumont, recently toured the United Nations complex in New York City.



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Kunst's service honored

AREA—Mary Angela Kunst, a member of Holy Name of Jesus Parish, East Orange, was honored at the annual Christmas luncheon of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women with its Woman of Faith, Woman of Action award.

Kunst has been active for many years at her parish. She coordinates the Eucharistic Ministry which provides visits the home-bound and those in nursing homes.

Educated as a nurse, she served as director of the Winifred B. Baldwin School of Nursing at the Hospital Center of Orange.

In addition to her parish responsibilities, Kunst volunteers at the St. Barnabas Hospital Hospice and Palliative Care Center and the American Cancer Society both in West Orange.

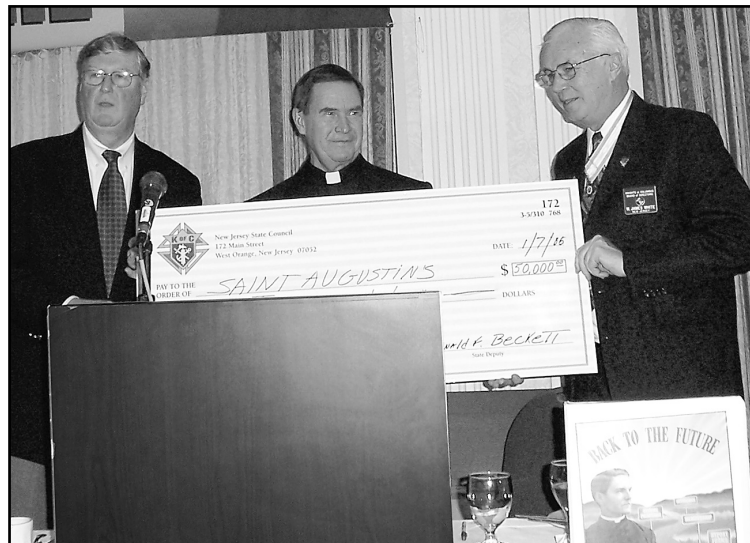
Archbishop John J. Myers was the guest speaker. He addressed the serious moral issues involved in embryonic stem cell research, which results in the destruction of a fetus.

Patricia Walsh

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Left to right, Reginald F. Beckett, State Deputy, New Jersey Knights of Columbus; Father Doyle and W. James White, Director of the Knights of Columbus international organization, with a replica of the \$50,000 check.

State Knights help hurricane victims

SOMERSET—Father Joseph Doyle, Principal of Saint Augustine's High School in hurricane ravaged New Orleans was presented a \$50,000 check from the New Jersey State Knights of Columbus Catholic fraternal organization at its semi-annual Grand Knights at the Somerset Marriott Hotel.

Reginald F. Beckett, leader of the State's 65,000 members, and W. James White, a director in the International Knights of Columbus organization, in New Haven, CT, presented Father Doyle with the check on behalf of the State Council.

Nearly 800 representatives from Councils throughout New Jersey heard Father Doyle say, "We are really going through a difficult time right now, in New Orleans, not only in terms of buildings demolished, but in our people. There is tremendous stress that people have to endure after an experience like we had with Katrina. We need financial assistance, and we also need your prayers."

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Obituaries

Msgr. Johnson, 90, longtime pastor in the Archdiocese

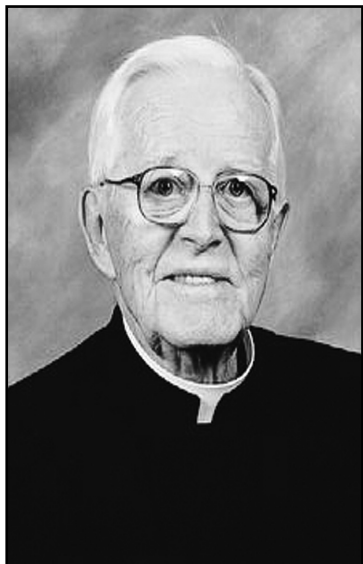
A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Dec. 10 at St. Anthony Parish, Northvale, for its former pastor Msgr. James F. Johnson, 90, who died Dec. 5.

Ordained in 1942 at St. Patrick's Pro-Cathedral, Newark, Msgr. Johnson was assigned to St. Anthony Parish, Northvale, in 1946 as an administrator.

He became a monsignor in 1965 and was named pastor in the 1970s.

During those years he oversaw the building of the new church building, the school and an addition, a convent, the brothers' residence and the rectory.

From 1960-75 he was director of the Family Life Office for the Archdiocese of Newark.



Rev. James Johnson

Msgr. Johnson retired in 1985 after 39 years at St. Anthony Parish.

Sister Mary Arnold, 95

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Dec. 28 at Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel, Lodi, for Sister Mary Arnold Mish O.F.M., 95, who died Dec. 23.

Sister Arnold entered the Felician Sisters' Congregation in Lodi in 1927, and received the Felician habit on Aug. 26, 1928.

She made first religious vows on Aug. 27, 1929 and professed final vows on Aug. 18, 1935.

She received a B.S. degree in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University and received a M.A. in religion from Notre Dame University.

Her apostolic ministries include St. Casimir Parish, Newark (1929-1930), Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Bayonne (1935-1938) and St. Anthony High School, Jersey City (1963-1966).

Pray for them

Claire O'Connell, mother of Father Mark A. O'Connell, parochial vicar at St. Peter Parish, Belleville, died Jan. 4.

Anna Marie Coleman, mother of Rev. Msgr. Robert F. Coleman, rector and dean of Immaculate Conception Seminary in South Orange, died Jan. 10.

Mary M. Urnick, mother of Rev. Charles B. Urnick, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Norwood, died Jan. 10.

Donald P. Theobald, brother of Rev. Charles F. Theobald, died Jan. 5.

Myrta Mae Harger, mother of Rev. Bruce Harger, died Jan. 10.

Elizabeth Graff, mother of Rev. Timothy Graff, pastor of St. Francis de Sales Parish Lodi, died Jan. 12.

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y al ver que lo seguían les preguntó:**

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Ellos dijeron:
—Maestro, ¿dónde vives?

Jesús les contestó:
—Vengan a verlo.

San Juan 1:38-39

¿Ha usted considerado seguir a Jesús como un sacerdote, hermana o hermano...?

Two Saint Patrick students serve as Washington pages

ELIZABETH—Shataya Hawly and Liliana Pereira, students at Saint Patrick High School, are among a select group who are serving as congressional pages.

Pages work as a support staff for the U.S. House of Representatives. Hawly and Pereira will be in Washington until June. They were sponsored by Congressman Donald Payne. Pages are appointed after a rigorous screening and interviewing processes. Not only must they qualify academically but pages are also evaluated on the basis of poise and demeanor. Of all applicants, only 66 are chosen.

Pages, who are junior high school students, live, work and attend a special school in the nation's capital.

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Veteran nurse heads wound healing center

ELIZABETH—Nancy Rager, RN, CLNC, WCC, is the new program director of its Center for Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine at Trinitas Hospital.

Rager has been a nurse for more than 25 years in Union County, specializing in wound care. While working within the long-term care setting, she obtained certification in wound care and became a Certified Legal Nurse consultant. She obtained her RN certification and began her nursing career in the emergency department of Victory Memorial Hospital in Brooklyn.

With overall heal rates above 90 percent, the Center for Wound Healing & Hyperbaric Medicine ranks as one of the top centers in the nation.

The Center's unique team of physicians, nurses and foot specialists deal with non-healing wounds that have resisted healing after months and even years of traditional treatment.

Through such innovative technologies as Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy, Graftskin living skin device, and pioneering wound closure technologies such as the Vacuum Assisted Closure (VAC), the majority of patients suffering from pressure ulcers, venous ulcers and trauma wounds are healed in an average of just 50 days.

Last year the Center was named "Center of the Year" by Praxis Clinical Services, which provides management services for the development, implementation and operation of wound healing centers, such as the one at Trinitas, throughout the nation.



Nancy Rager, director of the Center for Wound Healing and Hyperbaric Medicine at Trinitas Hospital, attends to a patient in one of the Center's hyperbaric oxygen chambers.

'Hope' hospice members honored

EATONTOWN — Four members at the Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care have been recognized for outstanding service by the New Jersey Hospice & Palliative Care Organization (NJHPCO).

Each year the NJHPCO honors hospice professionals at the Awards Dinner at the Sheraton. The Center For Hope recipients are LPN of the Year, Miguelina Lugo; Charles Venditto; Facility Manager of the Year, Roberta Wegryn and Volunteer of the Year, Peter Shields received a

life achievement award for his continuing work with the Center For Hope.

The Center For Hope Hospice & Palliative Care is a nonprofit facility that has cared for the terminally ill since the mid 1970's. The Center is

a member of the New Jersey Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, a nonprofit public service organization that promotes use of hospice and palliative care at the end of life.

For more information call (908) 889-7780.



At the awards ceremony were, left to right, Roberta Wegryn, Peter Shields, Robert Coloney, president and ceo, Miguelina Lugo LPN, Charlie Venditto.

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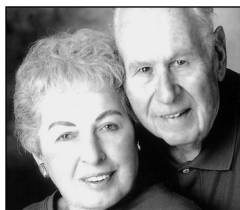
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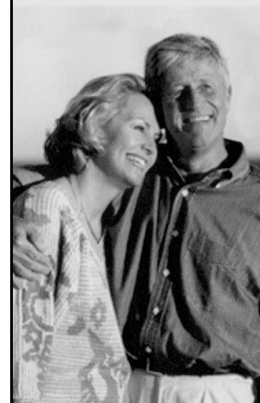
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'Superheroes' session set

ELIZABETH—Locating foster homes for healthy children can often be a daunting task. For those children who have medical problems or other special needs, the task is even more difficult.

Yet, thanks to combined efforts of Trinitas Hospital and the New Jersey Office of Children's Services Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), the lives of Essex and Union county children who are identified as "medically fragile" may be turned around this year.

"Superheroes to the Rescue," an information session designed to heighten public awareness of the needs of these children and emphasize the gratification that this particular foster parenting experience can offer, is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. in Grassman Hall at the New Point Campus of Trinitas Hospital, 655 East Jersey St.

To attend the free information session contact Monique Ford, resource family recruiter, at (908) 497-1488, ext. 7937, or Kelly Baker, community outreach specialist, at Trinitas Hospital, at (908) 994-7452 by Friday, Feb. 3.

Presidents forum topic

ALLENDALE—The Atrium, an independent living residence, will host "American Presidents" Tuesday, Jan. 31 led by Mary Stampleman, Director of Therapeutic Recreation, at 11 a.m.

The discussion will include a review of Stampleman's personal campaign button collection, which ranges from Presidents Washington to Taft.

Scheduled this month as well are several activities for the Senior Social Club, including a Polish Cultural Day.

The Allendale Community is a physician-owned facility with three licensed levels of care. In addition to The Atrium, the private retirement community includes Carlton Court, an assisted living residence, and The Allendale Nursing Home. The Community also offers respite care in all three residences.

For more information, visit www.allendalecommunity.com.

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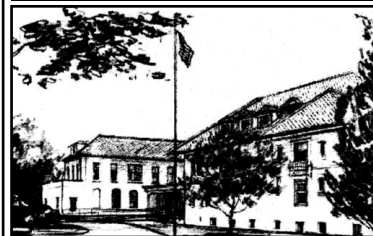
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The essential functions of the job are database system administration for SASI and IGPro; providing telephone support and technical assistance to schools for enrollment, attendance, scheduling, grade reporting, teacher grade books (IGPro) and other SASI modules; present training workshops for basic SASI and IGPro applications; travel to schools within the four (4) counties of the Diocese of Trenton; and design and develop diocesan level reports. In addition, the successful candidate will troubleshoot hardware, network and web connectivity issues.

Necessary Qualifications include: The successful candidate must have a Bachelor Degree in computer information systems or a related field; a minimum of two (2) years of technology support in a school environment, preferably with SASI; strong background in Microsoft operating systems; Office; database; web applications; and report writing. Excellent written and verbal communication skills are a plus.

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Diocese of Trenton

Principal Opening for New Catholic School

The Diocese of Trenton is seeking a highly qualified elementary school principal for a newly merged Pre-K-8 Catholic elementary school in northern Monmouth County in New Jersey.

The applicant must be a practicing Catholic who is a proven dynamic, educational leader with prior administrative experience, preferably in Catholic education and possesses certification as an elementary school principal in New Jersey or its equivalent. The applicant must have the ability to work collaboratively with faculty, staff, parents and a School Board as well as demonstrate achievement in improving instruction, program development, staff development and evaluation with an understanding of elementary standards based curriculum. It is essential that the candidate be visionary and knowledgeable in leadership, curriculum, finance, development and marketing.

This position is scheduled to begin July 1, 2006. Interested applicants should forward a letter of interest, resume and statement of educational philosophy and references by February 13, 2006 to:

Chairperson of the Search Committee
Mother Teresa Regional School
Office of Catholic Schools
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Diocese of Trenton

Announces the Formation of a New Catholic Regional School

The Diocese of Trenton is seeking a strong visionary and managerial elementary school principal for a newly formed Catholic Regional Elementary School in Burlington County as of July 1, 2006. This is an exciting opportunity for a qualified candidate who can demonstrate leadership in Catholic Identity, Instructional Programs and Financial Viability. The candidate must be a practicing Catholic who is a proven dynamic, educational leader and possesses New Jersey State Principal Certification or its equivalent.

A candidate must have the ability to work collaboratively with faculty, staff, parents, and a School Board as well as demonstrate achievement in improving instruction, program development, staff development and evaluation, marketing and elementary standards based curriculum.

Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest, resume, statement of educational philosophy and references by February 13, 2006 to:

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Pope John Paul II Regional School
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PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Oh most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. Oh Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. I place this cause in your hands. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you. **A.D.**

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Oh most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh, Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. Oh Holy Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to secure me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee. I place this cause in your hands. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. Novena is published in gratitude. Thank you. **G.D.**

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NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Amen. Say this prayer nine times a day for nine days. Published in gratitude. Thank you, St. Jude. **G.R.**

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE

Oh, Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near Kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition (make request). In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Marys and Glorias. St. Jude, pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. This Novena has never been known to fail. This Novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. **M.J.F.**

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Book by Jersey City author explores Scripture's depths

JERSEY CITY—James H. Kurt has produced a hefty volume (727 pages) of reflections on Mass readings.

The Jersey City native offers a page of meditation and exhortation for all the Masses of all cycles of the liturgical calendar (Sundays and Weekdays, as well as Solemnities and Feasts). An excellent resource for priests, daily communicants, and “all those who hunger for the Word of God” – in the words of its dedication – Our Daily Bread: Exposition of the Readings of Catholic Mass challenges the reader to delve more deeply into the readings proclaimed at “the source and summit of Christian life” (CCC, 1324), our Eucharistic celebration. The book carries an imprimatur from Archbishop John J. Myers.

Kurt’s principle goal has been to allow the readings to speak for themselves. This is evident in his extensive quoting and paraphrasing of the Word, but perhaps more significantly in his taking as his guiding principle the Lord’s instruction not to consider beforehand what to say when brought to bear witness to Him (see Mk.13:11).

After reading the Scriptures for the day three times (before dawn), the author let the Spirit direct him – writing without revision, trusting entirely in the Lord. Thus “describing spiritual realities in spiritual terms” (1Cor.2:13), the message and tone of the writing reflect that of the readings themselves; the work is therefore termed an exposition of the readings of Catholic Mass. A quote taken from the readings introduces each entry and serves as a key to the theme for the day.

A devout Catholic, Kurt attends daily Mass and weekly Confession, and regularly prays the Liturgy of the Hours and the Rosary. Though recently married, he continues to maintain his monastic discipline of prayer and writing and spiritual reading (often accompanied by his wife), and has developed a rather demanding horarium for himself. He also teaches an English as a Second Language composition class once a week at New Jersey City University (NJCU). This self-described “hermit in the city” has been writing about Catholic Christian topics for more than 20 years.

For more information or to view his 40-plus writings, go to www.writingsofjameskurt.org.

Our Daily Bread is available from the publisher’s website (www.authorhouse.com) or by phone (1-888-280-7715) for \$15 plus shipping and handling, and at Sikora’s bookstore. Daily podcasts of the book’s entries are also available at www.hermitinthecity.libsyn.com.



REMEMBERING DR. KING—Academy of Our Lady, Glen Rock, honored slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the national holiday marking his birth. Students and faculty attended a prayer service and followed through with their commitment to service learning.

Capital campaign reaches goal

WESTFIELD—Holy Trinity Parish has reached the \$3-million goal of its “Giving Thanks for the Past, Building for a Faith-Filled Future” capital campaign. Launched in the fall, the funds are earmarked for a new parish center.

Last year the parish conducted a survey to determine parishioners’ level of interest in various ministries and outreach programs and their satisfaction with the parish. The survey revealed a high level of satisfaction, a strong desire to expand the breadth of ministries, a keen interest in passing on the faith to the children in the faith community and a strongly felt need for adequate space for the parish’s many activities.

A home next to the parish on Westfield Avenue became available and following recommendations of the Parish Pastoral Council and the Parish Finance Council, Msgr. Joseph P. Masiello, Pastor, made the decision to acquire the property in November 2004.

Deacon Tom Pluta headed the effort to engage an architect and draw up plans for the center. Maintaining the integrity of the existing church was a high priority in the design.

Chairing the Capital Campaign are Bob

Dillon and Jerri and Jim Tanella; Major Gifts Chairs are Charles Weidman and Bill and Trish Fitzpatrick. Dillon said “I’ve been a member of this parish for more than 30 years and I’m happy to be part of an exciting venture which will allow us to expand our ministries, particularly our ministry to young children through the building of a new chapel.”

The new center includes an atrium space for gatherings before and after Masses, a chapel for daily and special Masses, and office space for the Youth Ministry and Religious Education programs. Several meeting and audio/visual rooms are included, as is a kitchen and a large dividable space that can be used by the many groups in the parish.

The goal was reached at the end of December. Msgr. Masiello commented: “Once again I am deeply humbled and inspired by the goodness of our parishioners and by their belief in the mission of Holy Trinity Parish.”

The secondary goals include restoration work in the existing church and the retirement of a loan used to purchase the property on Westfield Avenue.

Hospitals • Healthcare • Senior News



The hospital and healthcare industry is growing at a rapid rate each year. *The Catholic Advocate* will publish a special supplement on May 10 that will share our vision on of this important sector. This full-color supplement will provide timely information on medical facilities and healthcare services available in northern New Jersey.

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Schools Office

Continued from page S2

schools and stand ready to assist them in any way needed.

Sister Ann Kavanagh, RDC, wears many hats. She is the Director of Personnel and in that capacity helps schools fill job openings for faculty and administration. She is also Personnel and Events Manager; Director of Government Funded Programs. This is important as she ensures that the schools are fully aware of any government funds and programs that may be available to assist the students.

Sister Loretta Hogan, SSJ, is the Director of Elementary School Finance. She sets standards for elementary school financial management in conjunction with the Office of Parish Internal Audits. Sister Loretta also serves as a consultant to schools in transition, and provides assistance with mergers of co-sponsored schools.

A relative newcomer to the School Office, Dr. Thomas Hart is the Director of Educational Technology. He is charged with ensuring that the schools are using technology in appropriate ways and that advances that may help improve school operations are made available to all. His latest initiative involved the piloting of Power School, an automated system of attendance, grading and other administrative tasks. As with



Left to right, seated, Sherise Whitlock and Mary Jo Barnello and, standing, Wanda Pinckney and Sister Diane Marie Kestler.

any new initiative, Dr. Hart is involved in every phase and stands ready to train schools and troubleshoot as needed.

Working with the regional high schools are John O'Neil and Grace Pietropinto.

O'Neil is also the Associate Superintendent for Regional and Bergen and Union Secondary Schools. He provides overall support to secondary schools in administrative, academic, legal and financial matters. He assists schools with their planning and budgeting processes as well.

Pietropinto is the Director of Finances for Regional High Schools, and focuses on accounting and budgeting for the regional secondary schools.

Responsibility for curriculum rests with Sister Louise Cababe, OP. She chairs all curriculum committees to develop and update

Advocate photo-Ward Miele

curriculum guidelines. She also coordinates the Standardized Testing Program for all the elementary schools in the Archdiocese. Sister Louise analyzes and reports testing results. She also presents many workshops for teachers and parents and represents the Archdiocese of Newark on the InterDiocesan Curriculum Committee.

School marketing is the province of Trish Fitzpatrick. She coordinates advertising campaigns, marketing workshops, and High School Information Nights. Fitzpatrick represents Newark on the statewide New Jersey Catholic Schools' Marketing Council and serves as the Moderator for The Marketing Consortium, a group of Admissions Directors from our high schools.

The Director of the New Jersey Network of Catholic

School Families is Mary McElroy. She advocates on behalf of Catholic school families. The Network is working tirelessly for the passage of the Urban Schools Scholarship Act that will create significant scholarships for students in urban schools. In addition, McElroy works to preserve and increase funding for textbooks, nursing services, transportation and technology, which are vital for all of students.

Gloria Castucci is the Director of Early Childhood Education and supports all pre-Kindergarten programs in the Archdiocese. She assists schools wishing to start or enhance Early Childhood programs and is a frequent speaker at many national conventions and workshops.

Mary Jo Barnello, Sherise Whitlock, Wanda Pinckney and Sr. Diane Marie Kestler provide support for this myriad of activities.



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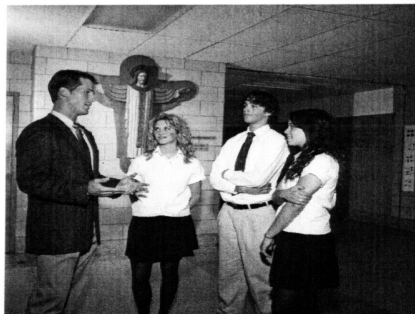
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Schools' record keeping is going high-tech

The 2005-06 academic year saw the introduction of a new technology to the schools of the Archdiocese of Newark. The PowerSchool program electronically maintains schools' records at a central location.

Ten schools of the Archdio-

cese are serving as "pilot schools" for this initial year. They are: Academy of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Franklin Lakes), Corpus Christi School (Hasbrouck Heights), Sacred Heart School (Lyndhurst), St. Peter School (Belleville), St.

John the Evangelist School (Bergenfield), St. Michael School (Union), St. Nicholas School (Jersey City), St. Paul Interparochial School (Ramsey), St. Therese of Lisieux School (Cresskill), and St. Thomas the Apostle School (Bloomfield).

In June 2005, a three-day training session conducted by a PowerSchool instructor was held for school representatives to acquaint them with the system and how they would interact with it. The school delegates included principals, technology directors and teachers, office staff, and other personnel who would be involved.

During the summer months, schools submitted databases of information about the school, students and schedules to Dr. Thomas Hart, Director of Educational Technology for the Archdiocese, who is coordinating the project.

Dr. Hart used the data to set up the Archdiocesan system on a server specific for PowerSchool. When the school year started, teachers in each school were introduced to the system by the school's facilitator.

To date, the pilot schools have been getting acquainted with the many aspects of the

program. At the very outset student attendance records were being monitored, and teachers were setting up record books so that grades could be input immediately and be ready for electronic calculation for report cards.

Each school has approached the adoption according to its perceived needs. In one school, student and staff photos are already included as part of their files. In another, from the first day of school the principal was able to offer birthday congratulations to the children – a custom she has been doing for some years, but that required far more time than she had to spend this year. Student attendance and grades can be monitored daily.

Because there are many features associated with this program, the schools are carefully adopting them to keep pace with staff ability to master each segment. Eventually, the system will enable parents to periodically monitor their children's progress and conduct email correspondence with the teachers. PowerSchool representatives recount how at one school, a military mom stationed in Iraq was able to check on her son's progress, and call or email him

when he seemed not to be doing his schoolwork in a satisfactory manner.

By the end of a four-year period, all the schools in the Archdiocese will use PowerSchool. Dr. Hart stated "The Schools Office is excited about the potential for Power-School to use technology to both save time and to facilitate communication between various school constituencies. We look forward to extending this technology to more schools next year."

Adele Ellis, Assistant Superintendent for the Diocese of Metuchen, who was instrumental in implementation of PowerSchool at St. Michael School, Union, said "I believe Power-School is a good tool for schools and can help cement the bond between parent and school. Catholic parents want to be involved in their child's education and this is a good way to do so."

Open house

ORADELL—Bergen Catholic High School will hold its final open house Jan. 26 from 7 to 9 p.m.

To schedule an appointment call Pat Fesen in the admissions office at (201) 634-4151.

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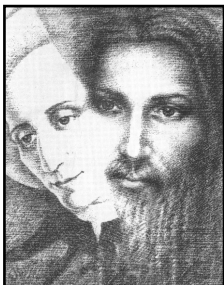
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In the Principal's Office Educating generations

BY TRISH FITZPATRICK

Special to The Catholic Advocate

When Everlyn Hay talks about Queen of Angels students, past and present, she speaks of them as her "babies."

She is now shepherding her second and third generation of children at this vibrant school located in the Central Ward of

Newark. Some of her babies are on the teaching staff and still more flock back to what they consider "home" to volunteer, serve as coaches, teach dancing, and mentor clubs. Meeting her, one can understand why this is so.

She is a product of the neighborhood and still lives there today. She attended local public schools and then Arts High in Newark, where she concentrated

in studio art. After graduation from Rutgers, she taught elementary school in Newark.

Her first job was as a teacher's aide traveling from classroom to classroom to draw phonics pages on the board; this highlighted two of her major interests, Language Arts and Studio Art.

She worked in public schools for six years before entering Catholic education. Hay has been at Queen of Angels for 28 years.

Queen of Angels School opened in 1867 as St. Peter's Orphanage. It was transitioned to a school and was for many years run by the Oblate Sisters of Providence. The Marist Brothers of the Schools, who presided when Hay enrolled her son in the school, succeeded them. Responding to an ad for a teacher, Hay applied and the rest, as they say, is history. She says today "I love the Marist Brothers because they show so much compassion for others."

Brother Owen Ormsby, FMS, Principal of Roselle Catholic Regional High School said of his time at Queen of Angels with Hay "We recognized Everlyn as a natural leader. She has committed her life to the school and parish. She gives her whole heart to the children at Queen of Angels and believes strongly that they will find better opportunities through the education they receive there."



Everlyn Hay

When she started at the school, she had several years of public school teaching experience. She taught the 5th grade at Queen of Angels and then moved up to teach them in 6th and finally in 8th grade. Now members of that class are 39 years old, and she can tell you where most of them are today.

Brother Owen recognized administrative ability in Hay and also Sharon Massey, Vice Principal of Queen of Angels and Everlyn's friend of many years. He encouraged them to enroll at St. Peter's College with him, where

they all received Master's in Administration and Supervision. In 1999 she became the principal of the school.

Life at Queen of Angels, Hay says, "revolves around the Gospel message." Each week, the Sunday Gospel provides the theme. There is a "Saint of the Week" and a "Gospel word of the week." The Gospel as foundation is her message and she tells students: "if you know the Gospels, your life will be so easy."

This strong faith, transmitted every day in her role as principal, mentor, and friend to many, is one of the things that Hay's colleagues admire about her. Tracey Battles, Director for the Office of Black Catholic Affairs at the Archdiocese and Pastoral Associate at Queen of Angels Parish said "Principal Hay has always been an inspiration for me. She has been a teacher, mentor and friend. She puts faith into action each day, as she carries out the Gospel at her school."

Sharon Massey has been instrumental in integrating technology into the classrooms. Through tireless grant writing and research, she has obtained computers, laptops and e-rate funding for the school. Hay says, "We have to have technology integrated particularly for the upper grades. This helps us greatly as we implement differentiated instruction for students to respond to their varied

Continued on page S7

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Advocate photo — M. Gabriele

NEW NAME—The directors of the New Jersey Network of Catholic School Families recently gathered at the Archdiocesan Center in Newark to unveil the group's new name. The organization previously was known as the New Jersey Alliance of Catholic School Families. The name change was made to highlight the advocacy work of Catholic school families throughout each N.J. diocese, functioning as a well-connected web of constituents that communicate effectively with N.J. legislators on a statewide basis. Pictured (left to right) are Judith Krilla, representing the Diocese of Metuchen; Mary Ellen Procaccini, the dioceses of Trenton and Camden; Mary McElroy, the Archdiocese of Newark; and (seated) Kim Chorba, Diocese of Paterson. The group educates and mobilizes individuals and organizations to be advocates of public policies that support the families whose children attend the Catholic schools of New Jersey.



Sister Theresa Mary Martin presents the President's Medallion to Sister Mary Joanne Ustaszewska, center, and John J. Mazur Jr.

Felician College lauds 3 Medallion recipients

LODI—Sister Theresa Mary Martin, President of Felician College, recently presented the annual President's Medallion to

three recipients.

The award acknowledges outstanding service and support for the mission of Felician College.

This year's recipients are John J. Mazur Jr., Sister Mary Alma Pilarska (posthumously) and Sister Mary Joanne Ustaszewska.

Mazur is the president and Chief Executive Officer of Elegant Desserts, a company that creates gourmet cakes and pastries for fine hotels, restaurants and country clubs in the tri-state area. In addition to serving as chairman of the Felician College Council of Regents, he serves as the chairman of the board for Kearny Federal Savings Bank and a member of the board of directors of the Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Sister Alma and Sister Joanne were co-creators of the nursing education program at Felician College celebrating its 40th anniversary.

Sister Alma was a Felician Sister for 55 years, dedicating her life to care giving and the ministry of healing. In 1965, she developed the first associate degree in nursing program in the state of New Jersey and brought it to Felician College.

Sister Joanne spent more than 50 years in nursing, including 15 years at Felician College and 17 years at St. Ignatius Home in Philadelphia.

Mary O'Donnell received the President's Medallion at an earlier presentation attended by college faculty and staff. O'Donnell retired from the nursing faculty after a long and distinguished career.

Felician College is a coeducational, liberal arts college with 1,800 students in undergraduate and graduate degree programs in Arts and Sciences, Business and Management, Teacher Education and Health Sciences and Nursing.

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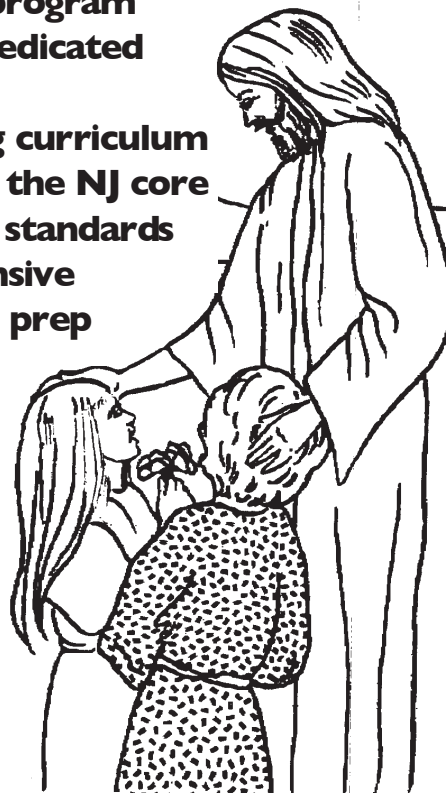
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Caldwell College makes the grade

CALDWELL—Across New Jersey and throughout the country, colleges and universities are increasingly facing one common challenge—educating more students while maintaining academic quality. At Caldwell College this challenge has been met head on.

“We see this as an opportunity,” said Caldwell’s President, Sister Patrice Werner, O.P., Ph.D. “We’re excited that an expanding student body can take advantage of everything Caldwell College has to offer, both in and out of the classroom.”

Caldwell College has come to be known as the school that “majors in you.” It consistently ranks high in low student to faculty ratios and this year, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Caldwell College third among colleges with the highest proportion of classes under 20 students.

Small class sizes allow students to get to know their professors and have access to them outside the classroom. Professors are often seen working side by side with students on projects, either in the art studio or in the science lab. This allows for personal student growth

and is an important element in overall student success.

Keeping with the traditions of the Sisters of Saint Dominic, Caldwell College values community involvement and expects students to be active in campus life and in the local community.

Incredible course offerings and scholarship advantages are the other components of the college’s success. Caldwell College offers both academic and athletic scholarships in addition to need based grants and Recognition Awards which reward student leaders and range from \$500 to \$6,000 annually.

Caldwell College has experienced an expansion of academic programs recently and offers a variety of new graduate programs as well. The campus landscape will soon be changing as construction begins on a new apartment style residence hall that will be ready in the fall of 2007.

An open house for traditional undergraduate students is planned for Saturday, Feb. 11. Details and registration are available at www.caldwell.edu.

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Constitution 40 of the Salesian Society



Photo: Richard Morris / SHP

SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION—A special Mass was celebrated recently to mark the sesquicentennial of Seton Hall Preparatory School in West Orange. As Headmaster Msgr. Michael E. Kelly raised the chalice, he was joined, from left, by former Language Department chairman Rev. Joseph Wortmann '50; Theology Department member Deacon Richard O'Hara; Msgr. Edwin Sullivan, a member of the Seton Hall community since the 1940s; former Headmaster Rev. William Giblin, Theology Department member Rev. Stephen Kilcan, former Dean of Men Rev. Anthony Kulig and Theology teacher Rev. Bruce Janiga. Highlighting the anniversary activities will be an April 26 gala at the Pleasantdale Chateau and a summer open house and picnic at the Kelly Athletic Complex, both in West Orange.

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OPEN HOUSE: JANUARY 29th, 12:30-3:00 pm. Call for info.

973-761-4033

240 Franklin Avenue • Maplewood, NJ 07040

Mother Seton Regional High School

invites 6th, 7th and 8th grade girls to its

OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, January 31, 2006
7:30 PM

Registration: Class of 2010
Saturday, February 4, 2006, 9:00 AM
(732) 382-1952



Mother Seton Regional High School

Valley Road, Clark, N.J. 07066
www.motherseton.org





PROCLAMATION—Westfield Mayor Andrew Skibitsky signed a proclamation honoring Catholic Schools Week at Holy Trinity Interparochial School. Noting Holy Trinity is now in its 90th year, the proclamation said “the school and its students are a source of value, pleasure and pride” to Westfield. With the mayor were, left to right, Abigail Brennan, Rory McGovern, Eddie McGovern, Matt Corrao, Courtney McGovern, Amanda Williams, Catherine Serzan, David Corrao and John Corrao.

Catholic schools programs abound

AREA—Schools throughout the Archdiocese of Newark will be busy during Catholic School Week which runs this year from Jan. 29 to Feb. 4.

Following is a look at some of the variety of activities

Tegakwita Academy, the James A. Farrell Early Childhood Center at Immaculate Conception Parish, Montclair, will host several open houses.

The Academy is a Pre-K program for three and four year olds located in the parish center, 1 Munn St. It offers a variety of full and half-day options. For additional information call Chris Billi at (973) 744-5650.

St. Leo/Sacred Heart School, Irvington, has a full week planned.

A Sunday Mass for students and faculty on Jan. 29 will open Catholic Schools Week.

On Jan. 30 an open house for the entire school will be held beginning at 1:30 p.m. A priest from the parish will speak on Pope Saint Leo the Great. Students will be asked to identify the school mission statement in conjunction with Saint Leo's life. The students will also dress in the school colors and donate to the parish's pantry program.

Jan. 31 each grade will visit the church and learn about the mysteries depicted on each stained glass window. They will also visit the two tables of the Ten Commandments located in the front of the church.

On Feb. 1 the sixth through eighth grades will volunteer at the lunch and aftercare programs. At Mass on Feb. 2, the Student Government will present canned food to the pantry program. After Mass, a luncheon will feature students and faculty celebrating Parents' Appreciation Day.

A noon dismissal has been scheduled for Feb. 3 to allow for the staff and clergy to mark Religious Appreciation Day.

St. Teresa of Avila Preschool/Kindergarten, Summit, will hold a “Science Fest” during Catholic Schools Week. Each class will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of science projects with their parents. The students will go from station to station to experiment with water, motion, magnets, color and their senses. Each student will receive a Scientist's Certificate.

The week begins at Saint Joseph School, Bogota, with eighth grade students presenting “Essays of Thanks” to parishioners at all the Masses. An open house will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The following Monday, a Mismatched Dress Day fund raiser will take place benefiting Catholic Relief Services. In the afternoon the Drama Club will present playlets on character traits, values, responsibility and commitments.

Tuesday's activities include a recycle toy, game and book sale. Proceeds are earmarked for St. Jude Children's Hospital.

A morning visit from representative of the New Jersey Devils will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 1. That will be followed by a Winter Olympic Spirit program.

The following day will center on a talent show put on by the students. The week concludes with Mass on Friday.

There will be registration for sibling kindergarten students on Monday, Jan. 30 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and registration for new students in grades K-7 on Tuesday, Jan. 31 also from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

“Character, Compassion and Values” is the Catholic Schools Week theme at St. Joseph School in East Rutherford.

The school opens its schedule Saturday, Jan. 28 with Visibility Weekend. Students will minister at various Masses to thank God for His many gifts. Each day will have an individual theme such as Student Appreciation Day, Teacher Appreciation Day, International Day, an Academic Quiz Bowl, curriculum fairs, a breakfast for local police, fire and EMS personnel, awards ceremonies and teacher-student athletic events.

An open house will take place Tuesday, Jan. 31 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Of special note are the full day pre-k, kindergarten and extended care programs.

Parents will have the opportunity to visit “open classrooms” to experience the learning process. Pre-k 3 sessions take place Feb. 1 from 1 to 2:30 p.m., pre-k 4 the same day from 8:30 to 10 a.m. while the eighth grade will be Feb. 2 from 9 to 11 a.m.

For additional information

Continued on page S13

Open House

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- STUDENT GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGING INITIATIVE, RESPONSIBILITY, COMMITMENT AND CREATIVITY

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- EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIPS TO HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PLACES IN NEW JERSEY, WASHINGTON, D.C., BOSTON AND PHILADELPHIA
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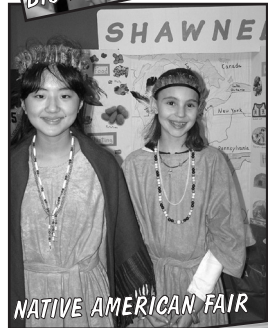
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OPEN HOUSE

JANUARY 29TH: 10:30 - 2:00

JANUARY 30TH: 9-11 AM & 7-9 PM



A CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OF DISTINCTION

Programs

Continued from page S10

call Principal Frances Alberta at (201) 939-3193 or visit www.sjser.com.

Sacred Heart School, Lyndhurst, will host two open houses as means of introducing families to the academic programs offering in grades pre-k 3 through eighth grade.

The first open house on Sunday, Jan. 29 kicks off Catholic Schools Week. It will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. The second open house is on Feb. 2 from 7 to 8 p.m.

At the open houses, parents can meet teachers, students and administrators including Principal Margaret Smiriga and director of early childhood programs.

Drawing students from Lyndhurst, North Arlington, Kearny, Nutley and Clifton. **Sacred Heart** offers full and half-day programs with flexible schedules for Pre K-3 and Pre K-4 children. The school also offers full day programs for kindergarten through eighth grade. Before and after school care is available. Featured are a state-of-the-art computer lab and internet access. All classrooms are computer equipped.

To help with tuition, a flexible payment program and tuition discounts for enrolled siblings is offered.

For additional information or to schedule an appointment call (201) 939-4277.

Distinguished Alumni awards will be presented following the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Jan. 29 at **Our Lady of Sorrows School**, South Orange. Following Mass an open house will take place from 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Two informational coffees, designed for parents of preschool children, will take place Tuesday, Jan. 31 and Wednesday, Feb. 15 both from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

A book fair for students and parents will be held each day of Catholic Schools Week.

A full agenda awaits at **Visitation Academy** in Paramus. Catholic Schools Week begins Sunday, Jan. 29 with Mass at 11 a.m. An open house is scheduled for 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

That Monday various members of the community will visit the school to speak with the students about their careers. On Tuesday, the eighth grade will hold a "Christians for Compassion" competition. Also, St.

Hubert's Humane Society will visit the first and seventh grades to discuss compassion towards animals, and more importantly, towards people.

Wednesday Feb. 1 will feature students preparing essays on the topic "One Nation Under God." An international lunch will be held. The students will also prepare banners in remembrance of the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

Thursday of Catholic Schools Week will see a special 8:30 a.m. Liturgy. Guest speaker Father Mike Jolie from **Sacred Heart Parish** in Clifton will speak to the middle schools about vocations.

Friday, Feb. 3 ends the week with a Student Council versus faculty volleyball game and a cheerleader pep rally.

On Tuesday, Jan. 31, **Mother**

Seton Regional High School, Clark, will hold an informal open house from 7:30 to 9 p.m. for sixth through eighth grade girls and their parents. Registration for the freshman class will take place Feb. 4 at 9 a.m. It is imperative for prospective students obtain an application in a timely manner. Call (732) 382-1952.

Catholic Schools Week at **St. Joseph School**, East Orange, begins with Mass at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 29. An open house will follow Mass.

Community Outreach Day marks the following Monday featuring a math bee from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Several events will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 31. It includes a "Handsome Gear and Slippery Sneakers" activity throughout the day, a spelling bee from 1 to

2 p.m. and a recognition ceremony for outstanding students.

"In Our Nation" is the theme for Wednesday with an Ethnic Festival Heritage program and a social studies bee from 1:30 to

2:30 p.m.

Vocations are the focus of Thursday, Feb. 2. The day will feature a Gospel choir, short play on the lives of the saints and

Continued on page S14



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Kieran, a Deans List student, is an Interdisciplinary Studies major. He plays on the Blue Knights Basketball team. He spent a semester studying in London. He plans on earning an MBA from the Mount.

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99% College Placement
Acceptances to: Cornell, UPenn, UVA
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Mother Seton High captures top honors

CLARK— The freshmen current events team at Mother Seton Regional High School captured top honors in the first of four competitions nationally and in the state.

The competition, sponsored by the National Current Events League, consists of four rounds held in November, January, March and April.

Each league competition consists of 30 current event questions. Four freshmen, Erin Croft, Victoria McCarthy, Jacqueline Somogyi and Ada Yeung, scored 29 out of 30 possible points.

The achievement resulted in the Mother Seton High School team receiving the designation of National Student Leaders for this first round of competition.

“The competition and process helps the freshmen become informed citizens and gain an understanding of current affairs,” noted Patricia Campos, a member of the Social Studies Department and team coach.

The Junior-Senior team placed third nationally and first statewide.

Announcement of the students’ achievements was made by the Social Studies Department.



Left to right, Jacqueline Somogyi, Victoria McCarthy, Erin Croft, Ada Yeung and team coach Patricia Campos.

Advocate photo-Joan Barron

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- Visit our new state-of-the-art Pre-K classroom
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- Extended Care Enrichment Program available each day (optional)

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10:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Grades 1-8: 8:55-10:25 am

Pre-K & Kindergarten: 10:00-11:00 am

NEW After Care Program 2:15 - 6:00 pm • All grade levels

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